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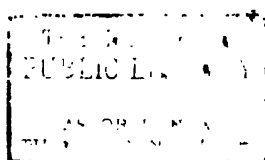
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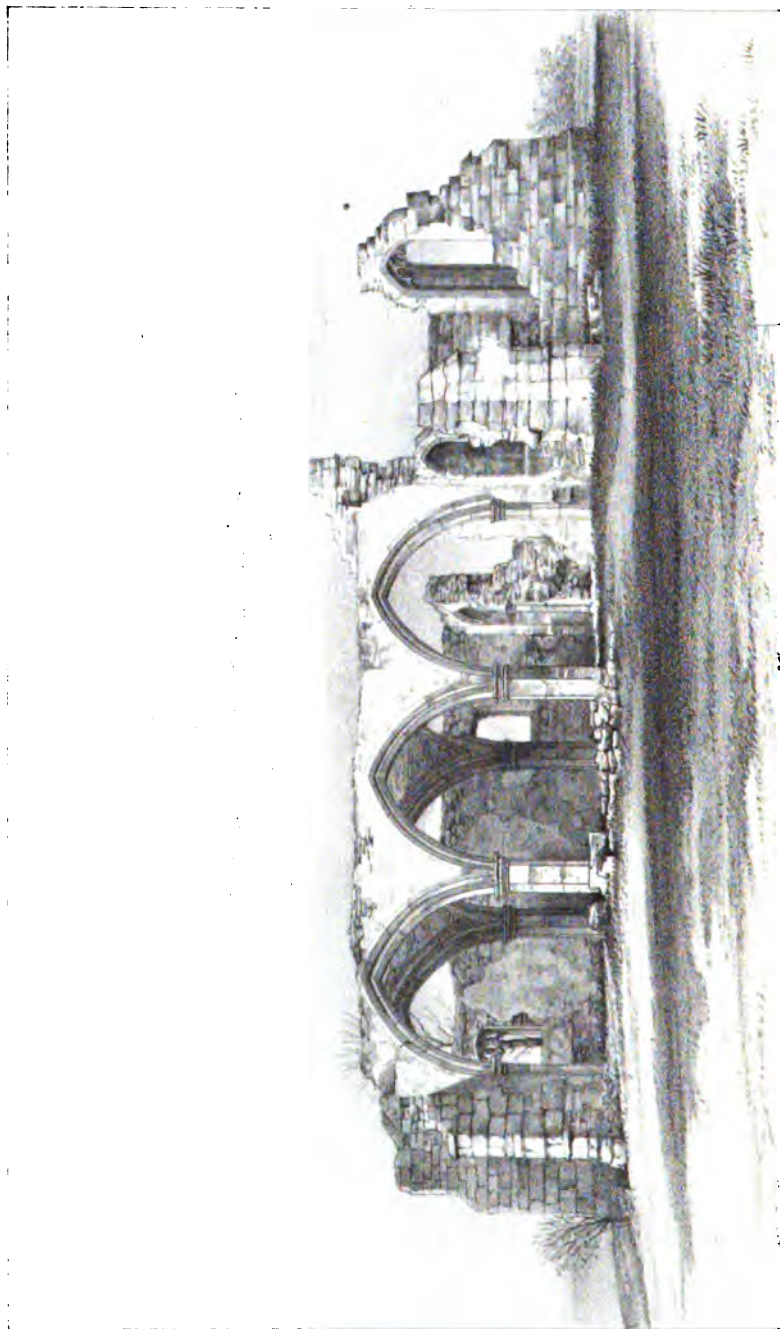
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**QUARENDON CHAPEL IN 1858.**

Phot. by Mr. J. H. Sturt.

RECORDS  
OF  
BUCKINGHAMSHIRE,

OR PAPERS AND NOTES ON THE  
HISTORY, ANTIQUITIES, AND ARCHITECTURE  
OF THE COUNTY;

TOGETHER WITH TRANSACTIONS OF THE

*Architectural and Archaeological Society*

FOR THE

COUNTY OF BUCKINGHAM.

(PUBLISHED BY THE SOCIETY.)

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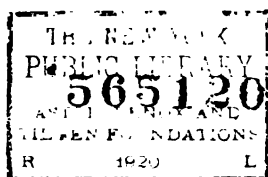
VOL. II.

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AYLESBURY:

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1863.



NOTES ON THE LIFE AND LABOURS OF BROWNE  
WILLIS, ESQ., LL.D., OF WHADDON HALL, COUNTY  
OF BUCKS. BORN 1682. DIED 1760.

BY REV. H. ROUNDELL.

Descended from a family, eminent for their attachment to the Church of England during the troubled times of the Commonwealth, Browne Willis was born at Blandford in Dorsetshire, the residence of his mothers' parents. Soon after his birth his father occupied as tenant the Hall at Beachampton, near Buckingham, and Willis received the rudiments of his education in the free school founded in that parish by Sir Simon Benet. Thence he was removed to Westminster, and afterwards entered as a Gentleman Commoner at Christ Church, Oxford, in his 17th year. By his father's early death, he came, when of age, into possession of a share of the large estates in this county, which his grandfather, Dr. Willis, had purchased in common with Mr. Selby, and found himself the owner of Manors or lands in Bletchley, Whaddon, and Brickhill, together with the advowson of Bletchley, and the old manorial mansion at Whaddon, then called Water Hall. In this house he spent the greater part of his long and useful life; here he accumulated the valuable MSS. collections bequeathed by him to the University of Oxford, and the library of printed books, which ultimately descended to the family of Fleming, and only within the last ten years have been dispersed by Messrs. Christie and Manson; here too, the greater part, if not the whole, of his published works were prepared for the press, and to this hospitable dwelling he was wont to invite all, whose high qualities had won his esteem, or whose love of kindred pursuits rendered their companionship useful or agreeable.

Even in early life Willis possessed a remarkable taste for ecclesiastical antiquities, and his friend and correspondent, Dr. Ducarel, in a Memoir of him read before the

Society of Antiquaries, has traced his love for these studies to the associations created and developed in his mind by the neighbouring Abbey, during his school career at Westminster. At Oxford certainly he had imbibed it strongly. By the good offices of Thomas Hearne the stores of the Bodleian library were open to Willis during his under graduate career, and he availed himself of the opportunity to copy out in his rooms at College the then unpublished Itinerary of Leland, writing at the rate of sixty pages daily, and finishing his self-imposed task in nine days.

After four years' residence Willis left College without offering himself for a degree, and placed himself under the tuition of the Rev. W. Wootton, Rector of Milton Keynes, near Newport Pagnell. In 1705 he was chosen member of Parliament for the corporation of Buckingham, and two years afterwards, being then in his 27th year, he married Catherine, only child of Daniel Elliot, Esq., of Port Elliot, in the county of Cornwall, a lady of considerable fortune, by whom he had a family of five sons and five daughters. Mrs. Willis died in 1725, and was buried at Bletchley.

Willis's Parliamentary career was short and unmarked with any event of importance. He never addressed the House, but attended in his place, often voting against his party, and frequently served upon Committees. For him however, a public life had no charms, and when at the next election in 1708, his return to Parliament might have been secured for £100, he preferred to express his sense of the honour that had been conferred upon him, and to decline the proffered re-election.

From this date his whole time, fortune, and energies were devoted to the study of antiquities, chiefly ecclesiastical, the reparation or building of Churches in parishes in which he was interested, and the general welfare of his own neighbourhood. His MSS. collections were to a great extent the fruits of his personal observations, and in the course of his journeys, pilgrimages as he was wont to call them, he visited all the Welsh and English Cathedrals, except Carlisle, taking their measurements, and monumental inscriptions, and investigating their libraries. It was a main object with him to obtain full lists of the Deans, Precentors, Chancellors, Treasurers, Archdeacons,

and Prebendaries of Cathedrals, the dedications of Churches, the number of bells, the names and revenues of chapels attached to religious houses, with catalogues of the principals of Monasteries, from their foundation to the Dissolution, and in this particular branch of ecclesiastical study, Willis remains without an equal in patience, research, or success. Once settled down, he was fully absorbed in his books, and it is related of him that on one occasion, after a long and hard morning's study in the rooms of a friend at Cambridge, when his attention was momentarily interrupted by the arrival of the College servant to remind him of the dinner, a slight noise was heard outside the door, and his friend asking "what noise is that," Willis starting up exclaimed, "Oh I quite forgot, it is only one of my daughters whom I left on the staircase."

To enter into any review of the published volumes of Willis would be beside the purpose of this paper, which professes to give only an outline of his general occupations. His works embrace a wide field of literary and antiquarian research, and in forming a judgment upon them, the difficulties of imperfect indexes, unarranged and missing MSS. and incivilities from officials, all which he had to contend against in no small degree, must be taken into account, together with his own continued ill health. Besides carrying on an extensive correspondence, he was constantly engaged in the preparation of some work for the press, and the following list comprises, it is believed, the whole of his publications with their dates of issue.

In 1710 he communicated to Mr. Gale, "*The History of Hyde Abbey*," together with "*Lists of the Abbots of Westminster and Hyde*," which that author inserted in his "*History and Antiquities of Winchester Cathedral*," published in 1715.

1712. Willis issued "*Queries for the History and Survey of the County of Buckingham*;" one sheet folio.

1715-16. "*Notitia Parliamentaria; or an History of the Counties, Cities, and Boroughs in England and Wales, with Lists of all the Knights, Citizens, and Burgesses*." Two vols. 8vo., price 10s.\*

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\* The portion of this Work relating to the Boroughs in Buckinghamshire has been recently reprinted by Mr. Gibbs of Aylesbury.

1717. "*The whole Duty of Man, adapted for the benefit of the Poorer Sort.*"

1717. "*A List of the Priors of Worcester.*"

1717-21. "*The History and Antiquities of the several Welsh Cathedrals, viz.—St. David's, St. Asaph,\* Llandaff, and Bangor.*" 4 vols., price £1 2s.

1718-19. "*An History of the Mitred Parliamentary Abbies and Conventual Cathedral Churches.*" 2 vols., 8vo., price £1 5s.

1720. Willis assisted Strype in a fresh edition of the "*History of London.*"

1727-31. "*A Survey of the Cathedrals of York, Durham, Carlisle, Chester, Man, and others, with Parochiale Anglicanum.*" 3 vols., 4to.

1730. He reprinted with additions the first volume of "*Notitia Parliamentaria*," and added a third volume, entitled "*The third Part of Notitia Parliamentaria, containing an account of the first Returns and Incorporations of the Cities, Towns, and Boroughs of England and Wales, with Lists of the Representatives in the several Parliaments from 1541 to 1660.*"

1733. A Table of the Gold Coins of England.

1743. "*A Series of Principals of Religious Houses*," published in Bishop Tanner's "*Notitia Monastica.*"

1745. Willis edited "*Ecton's Thesaurus*," 4to.

1749. "*Proposals for Printing a Journal of the House of Commons.*"

1750. "*Address to the Patrons of Ecclesiastical Livings.*" A single sheet, 4to.

1755. "*The History and Antiquities of the Town, Hundred and Deanery of Buckingham.*" London: 4to., £1 1s.

The MSS. volumes of Willis, which contain besides the materials for his published works, very considerable historical collections, were deposited according to the terms of his will in the Bodleian library at Oxford. They consist of fifty-eight volumes folio, forty-eight quarto, five small octavo; and have been recently rebound in strong and useful covers. A catalogue is in the course of publication

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\* The Survey of St. Asaph was reprinted with some additions, and a brief memoir of the author by the Rev. E. Edwards, in two volumes, 8vo., 1801.

which will make known more widely this valuable collection.\*

In his life time Browne Willis was a considerable benefactor to the University. He had amassed a fine cabinet of coins. It contained a curious and almost perfect series of tradesman's copper tokens, ranging from 1649—1672, and was rich in early English and Saxon money, and gold and silver of a later date. Vertue, the celebrated engraver, writing under date of July 29th, 1732, says, "I have lately seen Mr. Willis's collection of English coins, which are very perfect and in great number, especially among his silver he has a great many scarce pieces." This cabinet was given by Willis to the University, and Mr. Francis Wise, who examined the coins soon after Willis's death, corroborates the opinion of the collection expressed by Vertue, and adds some additional information respecting the circumstances of Willis's gift. "I believe Dr. Willis's cabinet of English coins is as complete as has ever been collected by one man, though it wants many of the Gallic coins, which have been since discovered. All the silver and the brass he freely gave to the University, but he told me that the University thought it too much for him who had then a large family to give the gold, and therefore they would purchase those. I waited on the Vice Chancellor, and desired him to seek out the University accounts for twenty years backwards, and there he found under the year 1741, Dr. Hodges, V.C. that £150 was paid to Mr. Willis for 167 English gold coins, being at the rate of £4 per ounce weight, and even in this way the gold coins are a considerable benefaction." It was the wish of Willis that his collection should be annually inspected on the 19th of October, being St. Frideswide's Day, by the Vice Chancellor and the Dean of Christ Church, or their deputies, and this was accordingly done for several years, Willis himself attending, and generally making some addition to the cabinet, which remains in the Bodleian, labelled "Numismata Willisiana" and still contains the coins, catalogued in his own handwriting. In acknowledgment for his many merits, the University rewarded him with the Degree of

\* This statement is authorized by the Rev. Dr. Bandinel, Keeper of Bodley's Library, to whom the contributor of this Paper desires to express his obligations for much courtesy and information.

Master of Arts, bestowed by Diploma August 23rd, 1720, and advanced him to the further dignity of L.L.D. on the 10th of April, 1749.

Concurrently with his other pursuits, Willis engaged himself from his early years to the repair and preservation of Churches. The Church of Bletchley, of which he was patron, had become greatly dilapidated, and Willis from the time of his leaving Oxford commenced its repair, expending upon it during his life upwards of £1200. He gave an entire service of Communion plate, and in 1760, the year of his decease, this church possessed two coverings for the Lord's Table, one of crimson velvet, for Sundays and Festivals, the other of purple velvet used during Lent, which were probably gifts of Willis, or Dr Benson, afterwards Bishop of Gloucester.

Within the parish of Bletchley is the hamlet of Fenny Stratford, a place which had a considerable population even a century and a half ago. The town is nearly two miles distant from the church, and once had a chapel, dedicated to St. Margaret, consisting of two or three aisles and an embattled tower, which was destroyed, and the burial ground attached desecrated, during the Civil Wars. Willis possessed himself of the site on which this chapel had stood, and in 1724 commenced a subscription for building a church, to which it was intended to annex the district of Fenny Stratford with a resident clergyman. With great difficulty a sufficient sum was raised in four years to complete the walls and roof, leaving the internal fittings unprovided. The work was then stopped; but by dint of renewed exertions, Willis contrived to complete the church, which was six years altogether in building. It was consecrated by the Bishop of Lincoln upon the 27th of May, 1730, Willis himself presenting the petition for Consecration; and on the morning of the day following the Triennial Visitation of the Bishop of Lincoln was held at Fenny, when ninety Clergy of the Diocese were present, and in the afternoon about 1000 Catechumens from the Deaneries of Bucks, Newport, Waddesdon, and the larger division of Mursley, were admitted to the ordinance of Confirmation within the newly founded Chapel.

To commemorate the erection of this Chapel, which Willis calls "his chiefest and most real worldly comfort and happiness," he directed that annually on St. Mar-

tin's day, the 11th of November, Divine Service should be performed, and the Eucharist administered, and that afterwards an assembly should be convened at some house within the hamlet, at which the deed of endowment should be read. For the perpetual maintenance of this Festival, he settled a yearly rent-charge of twenty shillings to be given to the Preacher of the day, chargeable upon a pasture at Bletchley, not inappropriately named "Parson's Piece;" but when this field together with a messuage and other lands at Bletchley was demised for the endowment of St. Martin's Chapel, this payment was merged in the rent due to the Incumbent. This commemoration is alluded to in an inscription underneath an engraving by Vertue of the picture of Dr. Willis, framed and glazed, and now hanging upon the south wall of the chancel-space in Fenny Church, where it was placed by Willis in memory of his grandfather—

In Honour to Thy Memory, Blessed Shade,  
Was the Foundation of this Chapell laid  
Purchased by Thee,—Thy Son and present Heir  
Owe these Three Mannours to thy Art and Care  
For this may all Thy Race Thanks ever pay  
And Yearly Celebrate Saint Martins Day.

This festivity was maintained by Willis during his life, and is thus noticed by the Rev. William Cole, rector of Bletchley.

"Browne Willis used to carry a handsome silver cup, weighing 75 oz. 10 dwts, to the Bull Inn, at Fenny Stratford, on St. Martin's Day every year, and celebrated the day after Divine Service with such company as he could get to meet him from the clergy and gentry of the neighbourhood. The cup was an heir loom given him by Dr. Benson, formerly rector of Bletchley, and then Bishop of Gloucester." The same Dr. Benson provided for the maintenance of the yearly dinner, settling in trust for this purpose a house in Fenny Stratford, known as "St. Martin's House," and returned in 1836 to the Charity Commissioners, as then let in two tenements, and producing about five pounds per annum, expended in an entertainment to the inhabitants. It is pleasing to record that the anniversary of St. Martin's Day is still celebrated at Fenny Stratford. In the morning, Divine Service with Sermon, is held in the Chapel, and at two o'clock in the afternoon the principal residents in the town assemble at the Bull Inn, under the presidency of the Rev. T. P.

Williamson, the present Incumbent, to a substantial repast, extending a hearty welcome to their visitors, while the rest of the inhabitants mark their observance of the Festival, by repeated discharges of six little pieces of ordnance, of curious size and shape, used from time beyond memory, and well known in the neighbourhood as the "Fenny Poppers."

The Church at Fenny Stratford was originally sixty-seven feet in length from east to west, and twenty-five in width. In 1823 it was enlarged, by the addition of a south aisle, rendered necessary by the increased population, but remains substantially the same as built by Willis. Its architectural style must not be criticized with too severe an eye. Those who are acquainted with the views of Horace Walpole's Gothic edifice at Strawberry Hill, or the Gothic Temple at Stowe, will form some idea of the knowledge of this style possessed by the best architects of the last century. At Fenny Stratford, a country builder, named Wing, resident at Aynhoe, near Brackley, was employed. He sent plans, drawn according to the prevailing taste of the day, for an oblong building with square-headed doors and windows, surmounted on the centre of the roof by a "kupalo on a hexagon," which he said in his accompanying explanatory letter, "would become the place well, though 'twas plain." These plans were adopted, and Gothicized under Willis's directions, who left the doorways as designed, but arched the windows, and cutting away the 'kupalo,' added at the west end a small tower, and finished off the walls with a battlemented parapet of some height. Withinside, the Creed, the Lord's Prayer, and the Ten Commandments are inscribed on the heavy wood work at the east end common to that period, the ceiling is ornamented with coats of arms of benefactors to the building, and the whole fabric, which is quite unique, affords a curious example of the amount of knowledge of Gothic architecture which Willis had acquired. It stands within a quarter of an hour's walk of Bletchley, and will well repay a visit to any traveller who may be detained at that uncomfortable station. May the chapel long remain for the spiritual welfare of the inhabitants of Fenny, and to be a memorial of its pious builder.

Shortly after the completion of this chapel, a disastrous

fire occurred at Stony Stratford, followed six years later by a second and still more calamitous one. In the last fire the church of St. Mary Magdalen, which stood on the east side of the town was destroyed. Great losses fell on the inhabitants, but Browne Willis shall give the history of this fire, and the assistance he rendered in his own words.

“ May 19, 1736. 53 houses were burnt down, and May 6, 1742, 113 houses, together with the church of St. Mary Magdalen. There were large collections made for this last fire, the loss of which was estimated at £10,000. Towards this was collected in the several counties of England by 11550 briefs £4293 15s. 2d., besides which by letters of bequest in the neighbourhood, and private charities near £3000 more; so that after deductions the clear receipt to the sufferers amounted, as I have seen it cast up, to £6487 6s. 11d., by which I presume they suffered not very much on the whole. Had the town of Bucks met with such success their losses had been well repaired. I, B. W. besides upwards of £20 which I contributed myself, going to London in August, 1742, got for Stony Stratford of friends there, £64 11s. 6d., which I brought down and paid to the treasurer \* \* \* And also at near £30 expense set up, and leaded, and new roofed the burnt down tower of St. Mary Magdalen, in order to preserve it, to have the church rebuilt to it again. I got for this good work above 20 guineas, and saw it expended in about two months after the fire, and pointed the walls withinside and without, and filled up the arches to prevent its taking damage, insomuch that the tower is made as firm as ever.”

Always zealous for the House of God, our antiquary's next efforts were directed to the rebuilding of the spire at Buckingham, which like that of its mother church of Lincoln, had been blown down in a violent gale of wind. In this undertaking he fell short of ultimate success. Unfortunately for his own advantage, Willis had opposed himself to the powerful family at Stowe, whose influence in the town of Buckingham was then paramount, and accordingly he could obtain no assistance from that quarter. Nevertheless he made an application to Lord Cobham,

addressing him in verse, and alluding to the family motto of the Temples. *Templa quam dilecta.*

On Buckingham—depressed County Town,  
From Stowe's ennobled altitude look down ;  
Worthy of being parent to a shire,  
Let it by your munificence appear ;  
That clamorous faction may no more upbraid  
Its humble dwellings, loss of friends and trade,  
There fix your Castle, there let Columns stand,  
Emblems of love raised by a grateful hand ;  
Oh, look on it as first it looked on you,  
Exalt again its Spire to crown your view,  
And ancient Magisterial Rights renew ;  
All ages then the Patriot shall record,  
And sing, How amiable are Thy Temples, Lord.

To Judge Denton of Hillesden, Willis wrote in prose, and the following extract from the letter, will serve as a specimen of his style, and to show the improvements he contemplated.

Whaddon Hall, Oct. 3. 1737.

My Lord Judge,

" I here enclose to you a draught of the steeple for the County Town Church. My daughter Molly has drawn it out from what I sketched, " if you like it it may be soon done by a masterly hand ; it is to be a " superstructure erected upon the present tower, after taking down the " monstrous balcony, in place of which a new altitude like St. Clements, " the London Parish Church, is to be raised, and the bells mounted and " then the ropes may not longer dangle indecently in the Church, or ale " carried to be drunk in the middle of it, or other acts which breed and " instil into youth future irreverence to the place. The octangular dome " may be more spread and widened as it must extend itself from the " foundation on the basis of the tower, and then the pinnacles may be " coupled by traces which will have a good aspect. I presume the " charge will be £5 per foot, and it will be done for little more than " double the charge of new-founding the bells. The breadth of the " tower I take to be 25 feet, and this is proportioned to twice that scale, " viz., 90 foot to the top of the smaller pinnacles, except the middle one " which is to arise about 6 foot above the rest with its vane designed to " be the town or County Arms. About £250 will I presume execute it, " and it will be a work most honorable and glorious to its patrons, and " stir the whole town and country into gratitude and admiration, and " like Absalom's Pillar perpetuate the raisers' name to all generations " beyond all other achievements, buildings, and monuments, and no " greater standing monument of affection and zeal for good works can in " this town for so small a charge be produced. And it will also redound " to the grandeur of the gentry, clergy, and community in the county " all interested in the same, to have their Capital town set off in so magnificent a manner, and exalt its head as indeed it did for ages in our " memory above all other towns in the County, parallel to what Virgil " describes of Rome and Mantua

Verum hæc tantum alias inter caput extulit urbes  
Quantum lenta solent inter viburna cupressi.

" But alas it is not so now. How is it fallen. How mean its approach. With what low, degrading notions do travellers depart ;

"their expectation damp't, their contempt raised ! Nothing to strike the eye, nothing to awake attention." \* \* \* \*

Such was his affection for the town of Buckingham, that he lost no opportunity of bringing it into notice. He was very urgent with the Archdeacons of Buckingham to hold their Visitations there, but not always with success, and his disappointment on one occasion amusingly peeps out in a letter to his friend, Dr. Ducarel.

Whaddon Hall, April 80, 1766.

"The Visitation was held on Monday last at Stony Stratford, that terrible stormy day. It should have been at Bucks, and I hoped I had secured it. But your neighbour, Dr. Bettesworth, the Commissary and Official would not agree to go there, but would come to Stony Stratford, where the waters were so out that several were drowned, especially the two churchwardens of Stoke Hammond parish, 4 miles off here, and several places, houses, and mills were laid under water, insomuch that several persons were forced to live in chambers, and a neighbouring miller was obliged to carry his sow and piggs into the same room with himself and family. But I hope Dr. Bettesworth will come the next time to Buckingham."

But if Dr. Bettesworth was not prevailed upon to hold his Visitations at Buckingham, he materially aided Willis in the preservation of the Church of Bow Brickhill. This Church after disuse of 150 years, had become ruinous, and the rector and patron had agreed that it should be taken down and the materials sold. Willis having a small estate in the parish interfered, and obtained from the Ecclesiastical Court an order to repair the Church ; he gave himself about £30, out of the £100 required to repair it, and secured the good services of Dr. Bettesworth in recommending a petition to the clergy of the Newport Deanery and surrounding districts, to promote collections within their parishes.

This, with the exception of an effort to establish schools in several of the towns of the county, in which Willis labored single-handed, was the last public act of his life. His health, never very robust, began to fail, and his constitution was still more shaken by a severe cold which he caught by the overturn of his carriage at some distance from home in the inclement month of January in 1759. This rendered him so feeble that he could not apply himself to antiquities, and in May he had not strength to reach down and turn over books, yet he continued to amuse himself by entering a list of bells in the county of Lincoln, which Dr. Reynolds had sent him, in the Paro-

chiale Anglicanum. Towards the close of the year he was sinking fast, and after a painless illness in which he was comforted by an affectionate letter from his relative the Archbishop of Canterbury, he expired upon the 5th of February, 1760, in the 78th year of his age, and was buried without ostentation in the chancel of the church at Fenny Stratford. Over his grave was placed a white marble stone, on which was inscribed the epitaph he had written for himself.

HIC SITUS EST  
BROWNE WILLIS, ANTIQUARIUS,  
CUJUS AVI CLARISSIMI, ÆTERNÆ MEMORIÆ,  
THOMÆ WILLIS, ARCHIATRI TOTIUS EUROPÆ CELEBERRIMI  
DEFUNCTI DIE SANCTI MARTINI A.D. 1675.  
HÆC CAPELLA EXIGUUM MONUMENTUM EST.  
OBIIT 5 DIE FEB. A.D. 1760  
ÆTATIS SUÆ 78.  
O XTE SOTER AC JUDEX  
HUIC PECCATORUM PRIMO  
MISERICOR AC PROPITIUS ESTO.

The character of Browne Willis in private life is in many respects very estimable. He was peculiarly sober and temperate in his habits. Daily were his household assembled for family worship, and he seldom omitted to retire to his own chamber in the afternoon for prayer and meditation. A constant communicant, he missed no opportunity of attending the Church Service on week days. He took great care of the poor of his own neighbourhood, and mainly supported three village schools at his own charge. Unfortunately for his own happiness he was exposed often to peculiar disadvantages from the temper of the times in which he lived. Himself a man of strong feelings, and of a somewhat morbid, if not impetuous disposition, "loving his own pursuits not wisely but too well," he was not always able to check these infirmities of temper, which are apt to arise in the minds of men whose feelings and opinions are diametrically opposed to those of the world around them. The day star of his life which under happier auspices and a more prudent zeal might have led to emolument as well as honour was regarded by almost all by whom he was surrounded as nothing more than a delusive meteor, a sort of 'Will o' the wisp,' which could lead to no good. Hence he was cut off from many social intercourses and sympathies, which while they

might not have greatly affected his character, would have smoothed his passage through life, and rewarded his efforts with a more easy success. As an author, Willis notwithstanding great merits, was unquestionably deficient in some important qualifications. He wants more clearness of arrangement, terseness of language, and greater mastery of his subject. These deficiencies, while to a large extent compensated for by his general accuracy, arise partly from the immensity of the task imposed on himself, and partly from a want of early training. Like Dodsworth, he amassed vast stores of material, adding to his collections any new fact he could pick up, without much regard for its relative bearing on the rest of the heap, or whether it was in itself worth keeping. The quarryman rather than the sculptor, the labourer of the hod and spade rather than the master builder, it is no disparagement of Willis's merits to say that had he been left in youth less entirely to his own guidance, had he even entered upon his antiquarian pursuits later in life, or relinquished them during his college life, for the sake of the mental training which an University education is calculated to impart, he would have stood still higher than he does on the roll of successful antiquaries. Let not however, this Society be slow to acknowledge his great deserts. He exhibited in his self-chosen occupation, an industry, a patience, disinterestedness, a love of study for knowledge sake, which it would be hard to parallel. He was one of the first of English Antiquaries who placed our ecclesiastical history and antiquities upon a firm basis by grounding them upon Records and Registers—the only true authorities and accurate sources of information. By his labours he has preserved sketches and descriptions of buildings which the finger of time, or the more ruthless hand of man has mutilated or swept away; and in this age of increased facilities of communication, and more extended interest in Architectural and Archæological studies, while the advance of science is year by year laying bare and not unfrequently destroying many a monument of secular and ecclesiastical antiquity, no better wish can be expressed for the welfare of our Association than that it should seek to follow in the steps of one who may be truly called, the Father and Founder of our County History.

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## A LETTER FROM ADMIRAL SMYTH ON THE PURSUIT OF ARCHÆOLOGY.

*St. John's Lodge, near Aylesbury, 20—9—'58.*

MY DEAR SIR,

I regret that a previous arrangement will prevent my attending the annual meeting of the Architectural and Archæological Society for the County of Buckingham; but a few words will express the pleasure I feel in the advance of an institution so well calculated to prove of very material local value. The day has passed when the antiquary was merely known by his longings for the possession of "auld nick-nackets," and trivial baubles of price and rarity; the pursuit of archæology has ripened into a science which contemplates the progressive development of man, and the aggregation of the race into families and communities: it has improved into characteristic investigations which, by inductive steps, throw such light on the obscurity of former periods by the consequent disclosures, that we can better understand the present, and enjoy a surer anticipation of the future.

There are, however, breakers on the horizon! The principal feature of the present age is strictly mechanical, the which—wonderful and beneficial as it undoubtedly is—displays no sympathy with by-gone or indeed any other times; for the sweeping march of Utilitarianism is rather reckless as to hereafter. 'Tis true that archaic sympathies must yield to political demands, and each year necessarily diminishes the land-marks of human occupancy in past ages; but surely wanton destruction is odious. The memorable threat of cutting through Westminster Abbey, so callous to the best feelings of human nature, was in itself quite sufficient to arouse the alarm and waken the vigilance of archæologists. Upon me the tocsin thus sounded struck with such force that, while occupying the post of Director of the Society of Antiquaries of London, I frequently bestirred myself in calling attention to the accelerating advance of destruc-

tion upon our national memorials, by the continual encroachments of the civil engineer: added to which, from the blamable carelessness of certain local authorities—the recent alterations in the law of interment, and the heartless strides of heave-ahcad-ism under its delusive flag of expediency, many of our monumental remains have already been totally effaced. Such destroying powers united, must inevitably cause the utter loss of memoratives equally necessary to genealogy, chronology, and every branch of historical evidence. Nor has the danger been allowed to pass unobserved; Kent, Bedford, and Surrey have vigorously taken the field, the Spalding Society is on the alert, and most of our counties are arming; but above all, the greatest example is in the activity of the Antiquarian Society of Newcastle-on-Tyne, aided by the powerful patronage and intelligence of the Duke of Northumberland. This praise-worthy phalanx has not only undertaken the investigation of all the scattered materials jeopardized by the onset of improvement among its military posts, ancient towns, and castrametation, but is also bringing together the numerous munimental evidences wherewith to elucidate and confront them.

Now it is obviously as essential for all our Provincial Institutions to be awake as for the antiquaries of Northumberland; they are called upon to look to their local vestigia, and especially to collect authentic copies of the still-remaining brasses, incised slabs, and important lapidary inscriptions in their respective counties; and these copies might easily be catalogued, and deposited safely for future inquirers. In a word, the investigation of early remains, with the garnering of mute records have become a duty; and systematic research must be greatly furthered by the proposed amendment of that arch-enemy to excavation—namely the law of Treasure-trove. The necessity for these objects will presently appear; but in the mean time we may remind the beginner how valuable a series of names, dates, and facts is, hereby obtainable, without the alloy of imaginary virtues which render the tributary lays of many modern tombstones so worthless; besides the unimpeachable illustrations of arms, costumes, cognizances, devices, and ornaments thus accruing. The sound antiquary has studiously to detect every possible error in copies of the title deeds, con-

veyances, and documentary or inscriptive evidence of every kind; even though such might be deemed "charter-proof," it ought to be received under salutary doubt and prudent caution. All drawings by hand, and autograph copying are liable to woeful and sometimes to ludicrous blunders: for the copyer will inevitably follow conjecture upon doubtful or obscure marks, inso-much as to occasion a deplorable waste of time and stale learning among some of his readers. Even the pointing of inscriptions is so connected with the improvement and progress of language, that every one interested should as carefully copy the stops as the characters; besides which, the very form of the letters and monograms are often terse and significant. The Romans who dwelt in Britain sometimes placed marks of distinction at the end of each word, as may be seen in the numerous memorials preserved in our collections; but the present important usage and practice of punctuation were unknown to them. Hence much inference as to the exact date of a monument may be gathered wherever such stops occur, even though the words may run in Latin. This will be the more evident when we recollect that the notes in question were not all introduced simultaneously—the comma, the interrogative, and the period preceded the semi-colon, the colon, and the mark of admiration; nor do they all appear in use at the same time, till about the year 1600. Here then we have a range of about two centuries and a half—from about the middle of Edward the Third's reign to the close of Elizabeth's—to watch the inscribing progress by, from the *leaf* in the verbal divisions of the earlier records, to the stops and connecting ligatures of the more modern: and from the coarse uncial and Longobardic, to the old English black letter and the Roman type.

Some very curious examples of the usefulness, and even the necessity, of attending to these minutiae have lately been brought to light in what are designated "palimpsest" brasses; or those whereon the sepulchral memorials of individuals in one generation have been displaced, or altered, in order to make way for those belonging to another. Thus a slab which might have been voted in honor for a deserving functionary, or which manifested the affection of a family, has, when the living had died out, or the

relations were removed, been turned face downwards, and the new surface blazoned as pride or wealth dictated. Yet, happily for the ends of justice, the characters and attributes on the two sides are generally in such open and palpable antagonism, that to the practised eye truth remains triumphant. Of this species of cuckoo-piracy, the specimen lately found in the chancel of Hedgerley church in this county, and described by my friend Mr. Albert Way, was a notable detection. In this case the first surface had been elaborately engraved in memory of an Abbot, hight Thomas Totyngton, who was gathered to his forefathers in 1312. Here his dignity reposed for more than a couple of centuries, when all his friends having passed away, and Hedgerley becoming peopled by those who knew not Totyngton, the brass was reversed, and its other surface richly incised to record the person and children of Dame Margaret Bulstrode, who died in 1540.

Now stringent accuracy being the very sheet-anchor of transcription, and well-knowing some lamentable errors in consequence of the oversights of copyers, I resolved whenever I should be under the necessity of making use of a votive record, or inscription of any grave import, to use every endeavour to obtain a rubbing, or a cast: and latterly the new and beautiful process of photography has been successfully applied to this purpose, in some cases. I might enlarge upon certain serious mistakes which have resulted from the hand-copying of our memorabilia, but we need here only dwell upon local bearings, and even on them the notice shall be brief. While engaged in writing the *Ædes Hartwelliana* poor Perkin-a-Leigh came before me, and his noted epitaph was to be found in Camden, Browne Willis, Pennant, Lysons, and others; but on close examination I found that they all differed, in a slight degree, from each other. Though on the whole the differences were of no material import to the general meaning, the discrepancies were annoying, as evincing a want of that care which carries conviction; for what is worth copying at all, is worth copying correctly. And as my son—Charles Piazza Smyth—was then travelling into the north, I prevailed on him to tarry at Macclesfield in order to make me a rubbing from the brass itself; and the inscription given in that work (page 94), is the true reading.

But I will submit another instance, as still more in

point with the tenour of this communication. Just above the ancient piscina on the left of the communion-table in Dinton church, there is a small brass plate, engraved in Roman capitals, to the memory of Eleanor Hampden, the heiress of Hartwell, who was married to Sir Thomas Lee, to whom she conveyed the manor and appurtenances to which she had succeeded. Here the subject is of sufficient consequence, and the inscription plain enough through any spectacles; yet instead of copying it accurately for his expensive County History, Dr. Lipscomb has printed it with a diminutive pica type (Part III, page 156) thus:—

Here lyeth the bodie of y<sup>e</sup> Ladie Dame Elinor the Wife  
to Sir Thomas Lee of Morton Knt. who had issue between  
them 24 children. She departed this life the 6th day of  
April 1633.

Her children lost a mother at her death  
The church a member, and y<sup>e</sup> poor a friend.

No antiquary could have expected so much inaccuracy in so recent a publication; and especially where there exists an easy access to the original.\* Not only are the spellings, the contractions, the stops, the line-lengths, and the diphthongs neglected, but, as I remarked in the *Ædes*, (page 59) the Doctor has actually dealt a *death*-blow to the rhyme of the concluding couplet. From an excellent rubbing which was expressly made for me by Mrs. Smyth, the following are the exact words and measure:—

HERE LYETH THE BODIE OF Y<sup>E</sup> LADIE DAME ELINOR  
LEE WIFE TO S<sup>R</sup> THOMAS LEE OF MORTON . K<sup>T</sup>  
WHO HAD ISSVE BETWENE THEM 24 CHIL-  
DREN, & SHEE DEPARTED THIS LIFE THE 6<sup>TH</sup>  
DAY OF APRIL 1633.

HER CHILDREN LOST A MOTHER AT HER END  
THE CHVRCH A MEMBER & Y<sup>E</sup> POORE A FREND.

Shortly after this was printed in the *Ædes*, Dr. Lee caused a rubbing from the same brass to be made and

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\* In an interesting volume on the Forest of Dean, just published by Mr. Murray, the Rev. H. G. Nicholls has shewn a curious and indisputable fact; for the evidence is from a "brass" of the XVth century, now in Newland church. On this memorial, it is clearly seen that the present custom of the men holding a stick between their teeth on which to fix a candle during their subterranean task—together with the scull-cap, the peculiar mattock, the thick vestments, and the mineral hod—have continued identically the same among the miners of that Royal Forest, for upwards of 400 years.

mounted for his own collection at Hartwell House; but on my mentioning that I was about to write to you on the subject, he kindly authorized my presenting it to the Architectural and Archæological Society, in his name; and it is herewith forwarded. Assuredly so flagrant a sample of gross inattention as is thus exposed, shows the urgent necessity for a re-examination of the various details hitherto given of the County's *vetusta monumenta*. Such an undertaking—and, with many, such a labour of love—allotted in parochial or other portions, is truly a legitimate aim for County Associations; and by such means County Histories will become, as they ought, more and more useful and trustworthy in reference. Moreover, while these matters are under attention, strides will necessarily be made towards the desirable end of compiling an archæological map of the county, showing the sites of the tumuli, monoliths, roads, passes, encampments, and relics of every description, whether pre-historic, British, Roman, Saxon, Danish, or Norman—which, to use Bacon's expression, "have casually escaped the shipwreck of Time:" and this is rendered the easier, inasmuch as our excellent Ordnance Maps afford a correct basis.

It was my intention to have appended a few of my own "experiences" in this line, with respect to the readiest methods of making rubbings, and obtaining fac-similia in cases of difficulty; but recollecting that my friend Mr. John Williams, of Somerset House, is perhaps the most practised hand in England in that particular department, as well as in taking exquisite casts of gems and coins, I requested him to favor me with information regarding his process. In an immediate reply, this gentleman has very openly related his management, the which is so likely to prove useful to the antiquarian Tyro, that I take the liberty of subjoining a copious extract.

I beg to remain, my dear Sir,

Your's faithfully,

W. H. SMYTH.

The Rev. CHARLES LOWNDES, F.R.A.S.,

*Hon. Sec., &c.*


Extract of a Letter from Mr. WILLIAMS to Admiral SMYTH, dated—

SOMERSET HOUSE, Sept. 19th, 1858.

"According to your desire I send you an account of my method of copying inscriptions on stone or brass with facility and perfect accuracy. I was led to its adoption by the following circumstances:—In the year 1832 I was engaged in the study of the Egyptian Hieroglyphics, and as I found I could not depend upon the accuracy of printed or engraved copies of Egyptian monuments, I endeavoured to find some method by which I might be able to copy mechanically, with rapidity and at the same time with perfect accuracy such inscriptions as I might require. The result was the adoption of the method I am about to describe, and I may add that during that and the four succeeding years I successfully copied the inscriptions on nearly the whole of the monuments then in the British Museum. I also copied those in the museum of Sir John Soane including the celebrated Belzoni Sarcophagus, together with those in the possession of Dr. Lee, and in the Ashmolean Museum at Oxford, with many others in different private collections. These inscriptions, all of course the exact size of the originals, now occupy four large volumes, and were taken from some hundreds of monuments."

The following is the method which he adopted :

"A paper blackened on one side is prepared as follows:—Take a small portion of yellow soap, say about the size of a nut, rub it up carefully with water until it becomes of the consistency of thick paste, without lumps of any kind: to this add a sufficient quantity of black lead in powder; mix these intimately, adding a few drops of water, if necessary, so as to keep it of the consistency I have already mentioned, viz., that of thick paste. Spread this on the surface of paper of any kind, and scrape off as much as possible of the superfluous colouring matter. Suffer it to dry, and now again scrape the surface so as to remove all the composition that might come off in patches in the succeeding manipulation, the object being to leave on the paper an exceedingly thin film of black lead spread as evenly as possible over it; this when laid with the blackened side on white paper will leave a trace even by merely passing the finger nail over it.

"This is the copying paper; in addition to this a piece of wood must be provided about six inches long, half an inch thick, and of about the same width, the end of this should be hollowed out so as to leave an edge projecting a little shaped, in short, like this figure. The edge of this can be applied readily to the paper, and is essential to the production of a good copy. 

"The paper I employed in making my copies was of the sort known to stationers as "double crown." This is a thin white paper of considerable size, and answers better than a thicker paper, as the structure of the latter frequently prevents the taking of many of the finer lines.

"In order to copy an inscription with these materials, we must first fix, by means of a little paste (shoemakers stiff paste is the best) one of the sheets of double crown over the object to be copied: applying the paste at the corner of the sheet of paper will be found quite sufficient, as it is merely required to keep the paper in its place. Lay upon this a piece of the prepared paper with the blackened side downwards, and rub it on the back with the edge of the piece of wood. The black comes off readily, and covers all the prominent parts, while the inscription and other sunken parts remain white. The flexibility of the paper enables

it to be applied in all directions, and consequently the copy can be made as sharp as possible; any parts that are imperfect can readily be retouched and as the blackened paper is not permanently fixed in any way, the progress of the work can be ascertained readily. When finished the copy is easily detached, and if necessary the traces of the paste used in fixing it, can readily be removed with a wet sponge. The time occupied in copying an object is very short.

I may also add that by using a lithographic compound for blackening the paper and transfer-paper for the copy, I was enabled to remove it to a lithographic stone, and thus multiply the copies *ad infinitum*."

\* \* In order to spare certain feelings in this vicinity, I have forbore to instance the discreditable and rapid destruction of Quarendon Chapel and its interesting marbles (*see Ædes Hartwelliana, page 62*): a spoliation which cannot be imputed to rail-roads, or other improvement.

W. H. S.

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MEMORIAL WINDOW TO REV. G. W. WRANGHAM.

A beautiful stained glass window, commemorating the death of the Rev. G. W. Wrangham, has lately been erected by his relatives, in the chancel of Aston Clinton Church. The glass is the work of old masters, and represents three figures, that of our Saviour being in the centre, supported on either hand by those of St. Peter and St. John. The attitude of the figures is very effective, and the rich colouring of the draperies, composed entirely of ancient glass, is brilliant in the extreme, especially the ruby and the purple. On the brass scroll inserted below is the following inscription:—

" THIS WINDOW WAS ERECTED  
TO THE GLORY OF GOD  
AND IN LOVING MEMORY OF THE  
REVEREND GEORGE WALTER WRANGHAM,  
WHO DIED OCTOBER XXIV, MDCCCLV,  
AGED LI,  
AND WAS BURIED IN THE CHURCHYARD."

Mr. Wrangham was the son of the late Archdeacon Wrangham, and the brother-in-law of the Rev. C. W. Wynne Eyton, the present Rector of Aston Clinton, by whom the chancel was very effectively restored, in 1849, at considerable expense. The body of the Church has since been restored at the cost of the parishioners and other contributors.

SUBSTANCE OF A LECTURE DELIVERED SEPT. 30,  
1858, BY ARCHDEACON BICKERSTETH UPON THE  
RUINS OF THE CHAPEL OF SAINT PETER, AT  
QUARENDON.

Before I enter upon the Ecclesiastical records of Quarendon, it may be useful to offer a few observations upon the history of the manor. The manor of Quarendon has never been sub-divided, but has always passed entire from one possessor to another. At the time of the Norman survey it was in the possession of Geoffrey de Mandeville; and from him it passed through various hands into the family of Lee. We find that family first mentioned in connection with this estate about A.D. 1450; and the property appears to have passed absolutely into their possession, in the time of Henry VIII. The family residence of the Lees was then at Burston, in the neighbouring parish of Aston Abbotts; though there was no doubt a residence before that time at Quarendon. Sir Robert Lee was then possessor, and from him the property descended to his son, Sir Anthony Lee, who was the father of the celebrated Sir Henry Lee, the Champion of Queen Elizabeth. Sir Henry Lee made Quarendon his principal seat, and built a large mansion here, on the site probably of former manorial residences. The spot may yet be traced by the irregularity of the surface, and by the remains of the moat by which it was surrounded. The house was no doubt of the usual style and character of mansions of that period, such as we distinguish by the name of Elizabethan. We learn from Sir Henry Lee's epitaph, a copy of which is preserved in Collins' Peerage, that he also founded a Hospital at Quarendon. Here he lived in great state and splendour; and on this very spot, on one occasion at least, he had the honour of entertaining Queen Elizabeth. A long account of the festivities is given in the third volume of "Queen Elizabeth's Progresses," where it is stated that "in the month of August, 1592, Sir Henry Lee was honoured by his Royal Mis-

“ tress’s presenee for two days at Quarendon, in the Vale “ of Aylesbury.” After Sir Henry Lee’s death in 1610, the estate of Quarendon passed to his cousin and next of kin, Henry Lee, who was created a Baronet. A later descendant of the family, Sir Edward Henry Lee, was (A.D. 1674) created Earl of Litchfield, with Viscount Quarendon as his second title. His grand daughter Charlotte became sole heiress, and by her marriage the property passed to Lord Dillon, whose son, the 12th Lord Dillon, sold it about 1802, to James Du Pre, Esq., of Wilton Park, near Beaconsfield, who is the present proprietor.

The Church or Chapel of Quarendon, which is dedicated to St. Peter, is stated both by Lysons and by Lipscomb, (the latter of whom gives Browne Willis as his authority) to have been founded in the 14th century, about 1392. This however, is a mistake ; as there is evidence both from records, and from the fragmentary remains of the building itself, to show that its original foundation was much earlier than this. Amongst the published records of our Society, there is printed a copy of the instrument by which the Vicarage of Bierton was ordained. The instrument was executed by the then Bishop of Lincoln, at Stowe; and it bears date 7th Kalends of December, (Nov. 25th) 1294. Previous to that time, Bierton, Quarendon, Buckland, and Stoke Mandeville, were all of them Chapels of ease to the Parish Church at Aylesbury; and the ancient Churches of these places respectively were served by priests from the mother Church. In the document referred to, it is appointed that the Vicar of the newly constituted incumbency of Bierton should have “ one “ Chaplain to minister in the Chapel of Quarendon, “ another in that of Bokeland, and a third in that of “ Stokes,” besides “ a priest dwelling with him” to assist him at Bierton. It is therefore quite clear from hence that there was a Church at Quarendon at least as early as 1294; how much earlier we have no certain means of determining. The chancel arch, of which only a small portion now remains, is evidently very early, possibly of the 12th century, certainly not later than the beginning of the 13th. This is no doubt a portion of that building which was standing when the Vicarage of Bierton was constituted. The greater part of the remaining portion

of the ruins is late Decorated; so that, if we had no other evidence to guide us, we should refer it to about the end of the 14th century. But if we come to enquire whether there are any memoranda about that period referring to the Chapel, we find that in the 1st year of Richard II., (A.D. 1377) license was given to "John Farnham, John Smith, and John Herbert, to assign a certain Chapellane to celebrate dayly Service in the Chapel of Quarendon, and that John Farnham might give the said Chapellane and his successors a messuage and 2 yard land, and John Smith give him a toft and messuage, and John Herbert a toft and messuage."\* It is natural to conclude that John Farnham, by whose exertions a resident minister and a daily service were provided for Quarendon, was the same person by whose liberality the Chapel was at this time restored and enlarged. Nearly a hundred years had then passed since the ordaining of the vicarage of Bierton. The incumbents of that place had probably been unable to fulfil the conditions of the original foundation; the services at Quarendon had perhaps become irregular and infrequent—and the Church itself had suffered for want of repair; when John Farnham and his friends united to restore the building, and to provide a permanent endowment, so as to secure a daily service.

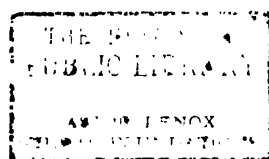
Browne Willis mentions a large monumental slab † which remained in his time in the body of the Church, upon which were an effigies and an inscription; and it is supposed with good reason, that this slab marked the place of interment of John Farnham, the great benefactor to this Church, in the 14th century.

There was another monumental slab at this time in the south aisle, the brasses of which had all disappeared, and which may probably have covered the remains of Richard Lee, who, A.D. 1499, "willed to be buried in St. Peter's Church, at Quarendon, before St. George's image."

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\* Extract by Browne Willis, from the "Patent Rolls."

† This slab was of marble, apparently Purbeck. A large fragment of it still exists, and forms part of the flooring of the cellar of the adjoining farm-house. The fragment is two feet nine inches wide, and the length of the perfect slab must have been about five feet. It contains the matrix of a brass in the centre, probably a figure—length, two feet, four inches; width at the elbows, seven inches. There were also four brass shields, one at each corner of the slab.





S.E. VIEW of QUARENDON CHAPEL,  
Buckinghamshire.





Interior VIEW of QUARENDON CHAPEL, Bucks.  
looking East.

We learn from Browne Willis, that in the 16th century, (about A.D. 1570) the whole of this district suffered from an overwhelming flood, which swept away about 3000 sheep and cattle, belonging to Sir Henry Lee, and did great damage to the Chapel. Sir Henry however renewed the building. In his epitaph already referred to, it is stated that "he revived the ruines of this Chappell." But judging from the present remains of the building, we should infer that the damage done by the flood was not so extensive as these words would seem to imply. The chancel windows were no doubt renewed, and perhaps the clerestory added at this time; but the greater part of the Chapel is evidently the work of John Farnham's time, and must therefore have survived this flood. The fabric, however, appears to have suffered greatly from neglect soon after the death of Sir H. Lee; and, like many other sacred edifices, it was probably injured during the civil wars; for Browne Willis informs us that it was returned in 1650, (Sir H. Lee having died in 1610) that "the minister of Bierton, to which this is a Chapelry, has £10 for serving it; but that it has had no service for many years, and is in ruins, and has no glass left, or bell in it." From a sketch of the Chapel, published in the *Gentleman's Magazine*, in 1817, it would appear that the original flat roof of the nave had been removed, and a high pitched tile roof had been substituted. There was also at that time, at the western end of the building, and within the outer walls, a low square turret, or wooden stage, which is said to have contained three bells, two of which, (if reports be correct) were taken away during the civil wars, and the third removed subsequently to the mother Church of Bierton.\*

Even in the present ruined condition of the Church, we can clearly trace at least three distinct periods of architecture. The first—Early English, (perhaps transition Norman) in the remains of the chancel-arch, and in portions of the masonry, particularly the north-west corner of the north aisle. The second—late Decorated, which comprehends the piers and arches of the nave, the external walls,

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\* External and internal views of the Chapel, as it appeared in 1817, are here given from the *Gentleman's Magazine*. The lithograph at the beginning of this paper is from a photographic view of its present state in 1858.—ED.

and in fact, the greater portion of the building. And the third—the Tudor style, which appears principally in the fragments of the chancel windows. This latter portion was doubtless the work of Sir Henry Lee.

The east window of the north aisle was a very beautiful example of Decorated architecture; and enough of the tracery yet remains to enable us to reproduce the whole design. The four centered window at the east end of the chancel was well proportioned; and making due allowance for the defects of the architecture of that period, it must, with the stained glass with which it was enriched, have presented an imposing appearance. The hooks which carried the shutters to protect the glass may yet be seen in the external jambs of the window.

The dimensions of the building were as follows:—

Nave, 40 feet by 20 feet.

Chancel, 21 feet by 13 feet.

South aisle, 40 feet by 8 feet.

North aisle, 40 feet by 9 feet 9 inches.

Besides the two monumental slabs in the body of the Church, there were three monuments, or altar tombs, of the Elizabethan period, in the Chancel. One on the south side to the memory of Sir Anthony Lee, (the father of Sir Henry Lee) and Margaret his wife, daughter of Sir Thomas Wiat. Another magnificent tomb on the north side, to the memory of Sir Henry Lee; and another on the same side, with an alabaster figure of a lady kneeling. This monument is said to have been removed by order of the Bishop of the Diocese, within two years of Sir Henry's death; and regard for his memory induces us to draw a veil over the circumstances.\* The wife of Sir Henry Lee (daughter of William Lord Paget) and their three children, were buried at Aylesbury in 1594, and their monument is still to be seen in the north transept of the Parish Church.

These monuments, and many of the fittings of the Church were existing in the memory of several persons now living; and fragments of them, and of portions of the Church are yet to be seen in the neighbourhood.

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\* In the garden of the adjoining farm house, there are still to be seen the fragments of the carved figures composing these monuments. One of a female figure, probably that of Anna Vavasour, the other, that of a knight in armour, most likely Sir Henry Lee.

It is not known when this Church ceased to be used for public worship. In the *Magna Britannia*, published in 1720, it is described as a "disused Chapel." But it appears from the *Bierton Register Books*, that it was used for occasional services, long after this date. A marriage was solemnized here as late as Dec. 22, 1746, and burials have taken place occasionally till within the last fifty years, in the Church-yard adjoining, the boundaries of which have now disappeared!

A man named Robert Hinton, died last January at Quarendon, aged eighty-two years. His father filled the office of sexton of the Chapel, and he himself could remember having assisted at a burial at Quarendon, about fifty years ago; and he said that at that time service was performed there about once in two or three Sundays, as it suited the convenience of the then Vicar of Bierton. He could point out the line of the old road, which connected Bierton with Quarendon; and he kept possession of the keys of the building, until wanton persons broke in the door, and by degrees mutilated and carried off the monuments and fittings of the interior.

It is sad to see this ancient and beautifully proportioned little temple thus crumbling away before our eyes. Our first wish would naturally be to see it restored. But unless some future proprietor of the estate were to make Quarendon his residence, it seems useless to look for a renewal of the building. Such a work would now require a considerable outlay. Moreover, the scantiness of the population, (scarcely more than fifty persons) and the inaccessibility of the situation, at least in winter, form additional impediments to such a design. All that at present we can hope to accomplish, is to fence round these sacred remains, so as to rescue them, if possible, from further injury, and to arrest in some degree the progress of decay. About £50 would enable us to do this effectually. Will not the lovers of Christian archæology assist us in preserving this interesting fragment, if not from inevitable consumption by time, at least from reckless mutilation by man?

E. B.

## CONSECRATION OF FULMER CHURCH:

1610.

For the following interesting account of the Consecration of Fulmer Church, evidently written by an eye-witness, the Society is indebted to D. P. King, Esq., Buckingham. Mr. King has kindly presented the original document to be added to the muniments of the Society.

“Fulmer Church being thus finisht and adorn’d was consecrated the first day of November this year one thousand Sixe hundred and ten by the right Revd. Father in God Doctor Barlow then Lord Bishop of Lincoln the manner whereof breifly followeth and the first Church-Yard was hallowed which the Bishop and all the assembly compassed and as they marched they sung the 100 Psalm: this Circuit Finisht the Bp made a compendious Speech expressing the Reasons of this, and the like Enclosures about Churches two whereof were cheif; the one was to give due distinction State and Reverence to the Temple of Almighty God from all prophane wayes and base places and that no other building shou’d be near unto it; and to this purpose He cited the 43 Chapter of Ezech: The other Reason is because the Church-yard is a Dormitory or place of rest for Christians to sleepe in untill the Resurrection for so much the word in Greek and Latin signifieth, in this Speech He distinguish all differences of places and persons &c with the divine Reason Cause and holy Institution of these things in the primitive Church and duly observed by all the holy Fathers &c. This Done the Bishop say’d to the Founder, this parcell of Ground which we have compassed for the buriall of the Dead within your parish is yet your own, is it therefore your free mind to give it for ever to this use, whereunto He answered, I give it freely and with an Earnest Desire to that purpose: the Bishop likewise asked the parish Priest and the church wardens of the same parish Church if they all had the same Desire and they all answered affirma-

tively, humbly beseeching the Bishoppe to persist in what He had so well begun, then the Bishop read the Instrument of Consecration wherein was contained an Interdiction that the olde church yard shou'd not be lay'd open to any prophane use then the Priest with due reverence read the 90 Psalme and the 23 chapter of Genesis Then the Bishop prayed saying: O Blessed Jesus our onely Saviour and Redeemer who being the Resurrection and the Life hast of thy mercy promised and by thy power art able to raise again unto life the Bodies of the Dead that lie in their Graves whether rotted with corruption or consumed to Dust wee humbly beseech thee of thine Especiall favour to vouchsafe that all those thy Servants which shall within this Circuite be buried may leade their lives in thy Fear and leaving them in thy faith may rest in peace within their Graves untill the great Day of thy Second Coming and may then bee rayseed a new in assured hope to raigne with thee in that Everlasting Glory which with thy most precious blood thou hast purchased for them and for all that love thee and look for thy appearance. Heare us O Blessed Jesus for thy passion sake Heare us O Loving Father for thy Son's Sake to whom with thee and the holy Ghost three Equall Persons and one Eternall God be rendered all thanks Praise and Glory. Amene.

Then the Bishop entred into the church porch and turned his Face to the founder that was lead in thither betweene two knights and said unto him now verily this Church-Yard is exempt and free from any Challenge of you or yours but this house as yet remaines wholly your owne say now therefore if you renounce all your right claim and Interest to the same He answered affirmatively: then the Bishop asked him if his hearts Desire were to have it dedicated to the Almighty God and consecrated to his Divine Service only, whereunto the Founder answered saying, most joyfully and willingly. Then the Bishop required the Founder to read this Psalm viz: One thing have I desir'd of the Lord, which I will require that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the dayes of my Life to behold the fair beauty of the Lord and to visit his Temple and so read on to verse the 7th which done the Bishop took him by the hand and said going forward I was glad when they said unto me, we will go into the house of the Lord. And at the Second verse of this Psalm

they both kneeled towards the East and devoutly said the rest with Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the holy Ghost &c after this the Bishop made a devout prayer acknowledging God's omnipotence and divine power and that heaven is his Seat and the Earth his Footstool So that his majestie and glorious presence cou'd not be confined within materiall Temples &c and prayed that it wou'd please his Fatherly Goodness that his Servants might assemble together in that place to heare Divine Service and to make their humble and devout Prayers and Supplications and to heare his Will and Word revealed unto them and that this place consecrated to his Service and Severed from all prophane Employments: that it wou'd please his Divine Majesty to bless it and accept it at their hands as a fit place for the usual Assembly a house wherein his Sacred word shou'd be reverently read and truly preacht his holy Sacraments truly administred with fear and reverence &c which most Excellent prayer and benediction ended hee turned to the New font and prayed likewise saying. Almighty and everlasting God whose most dearly beloved Son Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of our Sins did shed out of his most precious Side both water and blood and commanded his Disciples that they should goe teach all nations and baptize them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the holy Ghost, and to that purpose did Sanctifie not only the flood Jordan but all other waters also to the mistical washing away of Sin, we beseech thee hear the Supplications of thy Congregation and grant that all thy Servants which shall be baptized in the water of This Font may receive the fulness of thy grace and may evermore remain in the number of thy Elect Church through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Then the Bishop and the Founder went up the middle Isle and between the chancell and the Body of the church the Bishop turning his Face to the people read the Instrument of Consecration and dedicated the church to God in the memory of Saint James the Apostle for so was the name of the old church. After this the Parish Priest say'd the divine Service and instead of the Psalmes appointed for that Day he read the 26 the 87 and the 134 Psalmes and for the appointed Chapters the 2 of Samuel the 6 Chapter and the 10 Chapter of Saint John verse the 22 and so read to the end and in place of the Collect was

said this Prayer. We beseech thee O Almighty God that thou wilt be pleas'd continually to dwell in this house which this day we have dedicated to thee and vouchsafe to receive the Sacrifices of thy Servants whether of alms or Prayers or Thanksgiving which shall be offered herein grant also a blessing to thy Sacred word herein read or preach'd that like Seed sown on good Ground it may fructifie in those that shall be here assembled to the Instruction of their Understanding the comfort of their consciences the amendment of their Lives and the Saving of their Soules to the glory of thy blessed Name through Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour.

This Ended then began a Sermon his text Psalm 5 Verse 7 the People sang 2 Psalms viz the 27 and 113 the Sermon being ended Then the Bp celebrated the Communion where the Founder by the Bps direction kneeled by himself in the middle of the Quier right before the altar and being a Collection for the poor he offered a piece of gold and toward the End of the Celebration the Bishop prayed as followeth—Most gracious God after the religious Example of those holy Prelates in the Primitive Church which in celebrating the holy Communion rememb'ed the Saints departed and their benefactors living, wee humbly beseech thee to accept in good part our Commemoration of this worthy Gentleman thy Servant here present by whose means and at whose Charge in these demolishing and destroying dayes this house was translated reedified enlarged and dedicated to thy Service bless him we pray thee with his whole offspring and Family Establish him and his Seed upon Earth and when that House of clay his Body shall be dissolved clothe him with Immortality and give him an everlasting habitation in the heavens with thee and thy Son Jesus Christ to whom with the holy Ghost be all glory honour Praise and thanks now and for ever Amen. And so the Communion being ended and the benediction pronounced the Congregation was dismissed."

Lipscomb, who does not notice the preceding Document says, "The Church was built by Sir Marmaduke Dayrell Knt., about the year 1610. In the pavement of the aisle is a large slab, covering the entrance to the vault of the Dayrell family, and against the wall arc suspended

the 'tattered remnants' of banners, with their crests and arms; the sword of Sir Marmaduke Dayrell, Knt., being still preserved in an ancient chest under the belfry."

The Ecclesiastical Topography states that the Church is dedicated to St. James; "is built of brick with stone quoins;" that "several of the windows have painted quarries;" and that "on the south side of the chancel is a fine monument of the Founder, Dec. 1630."

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### WOLVES IN BUCKINGHAMSHIRE IN 1368.

By the following extract from the *Rot : Fin* : 42 Edw. III., as given by Blount in his "Ancient Tenures," it would appear that wolves existed in Buckinghamshire, and other neighbouring counties, long after they are generally supposed to have been exterminated from England. "Thomas Engaine held certain lands in Pightesle, (now called Pitchley) in Com: Northampton, by the service of finding, at his own proper Costs, certain Dogs for the destruction of Wolves, Foxes, Martrons, Cats and other Vermin, within the Countys of Northampton, Roteland, Oxford, Essex, and Buckingham."

Lord Macauley, in his History of England,\* states that "the last wolf in Britain is said to have been killed by Sir Evan Cameron,—Lochiel—till whose time wolves were numerous in the Highlands." Sir Evan lived in the latter part of the 17th century.

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*Addendum to the Paper on BROWNE WILLIS.*—In the List of Willis' Publications at page 4, the writer can add, on the authority of the Rev. William Cole, "*The Genealogical History of the Family of Lord Perceval*," 2 vols.; of which a few copies were privately printed. See Cole's MSS., vol. 32, folio 219.

## BIDDLESDEN ABBEY AND ITS LANDS.

BY REV. H. ROUNDELL.

*(Continued from Vol. I, page 287.)*

XII. In Turweston, County Bucks, Ralph de Stovil, whose family had obtained the Manor by grant from Richard the First after the forfeiture of the Felgeres, its first possessors after the Conquest, granted Biddlesden Abbey four virgates, chargeable with a quit-rent of six-pence per annum. Charters confirmatory of these and other lands in this parish were obtained on payment of fines of various amounts, from Matilda de Audley, describing herself as "the Rose of Turweston," her two daughters, Sibella and Agnes, and their respective husbands, John de Blake, and John de Pathe.

Some years later lands were exchanged at Turweston between the Abbey and Humphrey de Stovil, the younger, nephew of Ralph, and subsequently disputes arose between them concerning rights of road, ditches, boundaries, and especially a dunghill and pig-stye of De Stovil's, which stood in a position peculiarly offensive to one of the Biddlesden tenants; so that in 1245 arbitrators were appointed, and they having adjusted the minor articles of complaint, fixed boundary stones upon the disputed lands, and made further order "that the dung-hill should be placed immediately under the window of the house to which the pig-stye belongs, and that the door of the pig-stye should open opposite the door of the house, and that a fence should be made between the dung-hill and the house belonging to Biddlesden, and that no man should presume to disturb this settlement under pain of excommunication."

Yet this agreement did not secure undisturbed possession of their lands to the Monks; in 1274 they were compelled to pay a fine of twenty shillings to Florence de Stovil, and in 1286 they were sued in the King's Court

at Wycombe by Adam Sweet, descendant from Matilda de Audley, for restitution of the lands in Turweston that had been confirmed by her, and could only retain them on payment of two marks. In 1330 the whole revenues of the Abbey in this parish had sunk to 1*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* annually.

XIII. In Codesford, now Cottisford, County Oxon, Roger Albus granted seven acres of land, and grass in his pastures and commons for six score sheep,\* a benefaction, confirmed by charter from Matilda, widow of Wydane de Codesford, upon a fine of three shillings and two bushels of grain. In 1218 William de Bac leased to this Abbey, for a term of twenty years, all his houses in Codesford, with a dove cote, fish-pond, and other premises, for a fine of sixty shillings and an annual rent of three; and by a second lease he granted for the same length of time and at a yearly rent of half a mark, a farm-yard and rights of pasturage in Codesford for twelve score sheep, and covenanted to provide the stalls with straw for litter, and to thatch the sheep-fold as often as was necessary.†

Willis cites the Fine rolls of 1249, as proving that in that year Biddlesden held a messuage and lands in Codesford, but it is probable that these lands became subsequently alienated from the Abbey, as no mention of them occurs in the Chartulary, which appears to have been compiled at the close of the 15th or early in the 16th century.

XIV. Boycote, near Stowe, County Oxon, King Henry I. founding an Abbey of Black Canons at Cirencester, A. D. 1117, endowed it with lands in this parish, confiscated from the secular priest Rembald. Their estates here, confirmed by Charter from Hugh de Kennca, were held for upwards of a century by these Monks, who between 1230-1238 leased them to William de Stratford for the term of his life, at an annual rent of one hundred shillings, and shortly after sold them to Biddlesden, subject however to the above-named lease.

The extent of this Manor, described in the Cirencester Charter, as *Boicotam, et unam hidam terre in bosco et plano cum uno molendino* is ascertained from a survey, made about the time of the sale to Biddlesden, entitled *Tenentes ad Boicotam*, which recites the names of all the

\* Cart. Ant. 84 F. 59.

† Cart. Ant. 84 H. 3 and 4.

tenants, fifteen in number, and the quantity of land in their several holdings, and has the following:—

“Memorandum.

“1. That Richard the Miller owes fealty to the King  
“for one virgate of land, and pays yearly one mark for  
“the rent of the mill.

“2. That in Boicote field there are twenty acres, and  
“fifteen acres, and half an acre in demesne, and thirty  
“acres and a half were with the croft of Walter de  
“Bannebury.

“3. That in Boicote field there are twenty-six acres, and  
“eight acres, and half an acre in villenage.

“4. That the virgate in demesne contains twenty-  
“three acres.

“5. That the virgate in villenage contains twenty-  
“two acres, and two large acres (*acras majores*).”

“In Demesne there are six and a half virgates.

“In Villenage there are five and a half virgates.”\*

As no leases or annual agreements for these lands have been met with, it is likely that they were cultivated by the Monks themselves and their labourers, but in 1526, when the fortunes of the Monastic orders began to be in peril, Abbot Richard gave a lease of Boycott for 49 years to Agnes Abbice, widow of Ludovic Abbice, saving however to his Abbey the Boicote woods, and all the trees, chiefly ash and elm, growing upon the estate.† Ten years later the timber thus reserved, excepting Boicote woods, was sold to William Risly of Chytwoode, for “a certain somme of money agreede and payde” who had license of the Abbey to cut it down and carry it away.‡

XV. In Charwelton, County Northampton, William de Chenduit conveyed to Biddlesden two carucates, described as all the land within his Lordship, and three virgates and a half within the Vill, a grant confirmed by Richard the First; and by subsequent Charter De Chenduit added his capital messuage in Charwelton with its mills, quarries, roads, pasturages, and other appurtenances to his former benefactions, and released the Monks from a payment of two besants annually with which his first grant had been made chargeable.

But within a short time, probably after William’s death,

\* Harl: MSS. 4714 fol. 300.

† Cart. Ant. 84. F. 20.

‡ Cart. Ant. 84. F. 26.

his son Ralph possessed himself of a portion of these lands, for by suit in the King's Court to which the Abbot of Biddlesden was a party, he was compelled to restore lands in Charwelton to Lucie de Cokfield, and she about the year 1203, with her son Adam, confirmed to Biddlesden, all the lands within her fee of Charwelton, "to wit, all that the Monks formerly held, and all that "she had recovered from Ralph de Chenduit" on payment of half a Knight's service to the Fee of Morton, and to herself and heirs twelve marks yearly. This rent-charge, descending to her grandson, Adam de Cokfield, was remitted by him 1272, and in exchange the Monks of Biddlesden released him from an annual payment of ten pounds, due to them from his Manor of Fautewelle, in the Diocese of Norwich, and which they had purchased two years previously from the Abbot of Belle Becce by a contribution of one hundred pounds sterling for the rebuilding of his Abbey.\*

The Biddlesden estates in Charwelton had been also charged with an annual payment of nine shillings to the Monastery of Ashby, which Adam, Prior of that house remitted. Also with dues to the Priory of Warde, touching which an agreement was concluded in 1250, which assigned to Biddlesden all the emoluments in Charwelton of the Priory of Warde, and to Warde all the rights claimed by Biddlesden from lands belonging to the Priory in the vill of Bifield.

Another virgate in Charwelton was held by Biddlesden of the Fee of Berkhamstede. It had been given by Simon Herewarde, charged with a quit-rent of half a pound of pepper, and one pound of cummin, which was released by Thomas de Bronton, Lord of the Manor, for a fine of 6s. 8d. In 1276 Edmund, Earl of Cornwall, Lord of the Fee of Berkhamstede, confirmed the Monks in their possession of this virgate, and discharged them from all services in his Court, due upon these lands.†

A. D. 1480, Thomas Andrews obtained a lease of the whole estates of the Abbey in this parish, at a rental of £16 yearly; and obligation to keep in repair all the buildings, under a penalty of £40, recoverable by dis-

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\* Harleian 4714 fol. 96. b., and Cart. Ant. 84. D. 11.

† Cart. Ant. 84. C. 12.

traint, with remainder in the event of his death to his son Richard.

XVI. In Preston Capes, County Northampton, Ralph de Castel, or Caldecourt, and his wife Agnes granted a virgate of land, upon condition that they should be provided by the Abbey "with food and clothing, roof and covering," and all necessities during their lives and afterwards be received to sepulture in the burial place of the Abbey, and by other, but undated, charters, they bestowed on the same terms a second virgate, a messuage, and premises at Preston. And A.D. 1203, Ralph de Chenduit, in lieu of giving a warrantry upon lands in Charwelton, conveyed to the Biddlesden Monks his rights in the Manor of Preston, reserving to himself a rent-charge of five marks annually. Towards the close of the 13th century, Richard de Lyons, Lord of Warkworth and Preston, gave the Monks rights of pasturage in West Woode within his estates there, and in 1295 they enclosed and brought into cultivation a parcel of land in Preston field, upon agreement made with the Prior of Daventry settling a fixed rent-charge upon the land in question as composition for tythe. Next after Charwelton, where their revenues amounted to 16*l.* at the time of the dissolution, the Biddlesden Abbey rents in Northamptonshire were highest in value at Preston, being found by the Commissioners worth 7*l.* 14*s.* 4*d.*

XVII. Thornborough, County Bucks. The quit-rent of five marks yearly, due from Biddlesden upon the Preston Manor, passed by inheritance or purchase from Ralph de Chenduit to Hugh Donesterre. He, with his wife's agreement, founding in 1266 a Chantry at Littlecote, in the parish of Stewkley, endowed it with this rent-charge, but by a second charter in the same year he released the Monks of Biddlesden from this payment, placed in their hands the sustentation and patronage of his newly founded Chantry, and confirmed to them two carucates, and a meadow called the Holme, in Thornborough, subject nevertheless to a sum of forty shillings annually to the nuns of St. Margaret's Celle of Ivinghoe, and for the Capellane of Littlecote a pension of five marks and three quarters of corn, with one jar of oil, and the offerings and altarges of the Chantry, a provision which in 1481 was

commuted for a stipend of four pounds yearly, and so continued until the dissolution.

Prior however to the benefaction of Hugh Donesterre, the Abbey possessed lands in this Parish described as "one virgate given by Reginald de Fraxino, one virgate given by Alan, son of Hugo, two virgates given by Ralph de Fraxino, one virgate given by Alice, daughter of Ralph Morin, four virgates given by John Hastings, three and a half virgates confirmed by Alice, daughter of Robert Hastings, and one virgate given by Thomas de Monte," and by Deed in 1246 the Abbot ceded to Ralph Morin one messuage, a parcel of thirty-two and a half acres, four acres of meadow, with pasturage for 80 sheep, 20 pigs, 6 cows, 6 oxen and 5 heifers, a fish-pond, and privileges of hunting and hawking, all in Thornborough, in exchange for lands and similar privileges in Snelston and Harewald. Four years after this exchange Roger Foliot and Floria, his wife, obtained a lease of the Manor of Preston Capes for their joint lives, and in compensation conveyed to the Abbey four messuages in Thornborough, three and a half virgates, ten and a half acres, and a rent of ten pence, held at a fee-farm rent of four silver pennies from Reginald de Fraxino, who confirmed this charter for a fine of five marks and one quarter of wheat. A second confirmation of Foliot's conveyance was given by John, son of Alan de Wolverton, Capital Lord, and he in 1272, on being freed from a charge of six shillings yearly secured to the Abbey by Adam Harding upon a house at Stony Stratford and a virgate at Wolverton, gave the Monks a warrant against all taxes that might be levied upon their lands at Thornborough by the Warden of Northampton.

XVIII. In the City of London, 1273-4, Cecilia, widow of William the Salter, citizen of London, granted Biddlesden her house in Distaff-lane within the parish of St. Nicholas, chargeable with the usual dues to the Lord of the Manor. This house, with one adjoining it also belonging to Biddlesden, was found A.D. 1291 worth xxv s. annually, subject to a deduction of xis. vi d. as tythe, and both three years later were leased, with two shops under them, to Thomas, Rector of St. Nicholas, for the term of his life upon a fine of five and a half marks, and a yearly rent of fifteen shillings.\* In 1298 the Abbey purchased

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\* Cart. Ant. 84. E. 25.

another house in Distaf-lane for 100 shillings, but charged with half a mark yearly to the Abbot of Westminster, seven shillings to the heirs of William de Burwelle, 18d. to the Canons of St. Brech, 18d. to the heirs of Ralph Tanni, and one pound of cummin to the heirs of Dionysia, wife of John de Thesewykes.

XIX. Ebrington, with Charingworth, County Gloucester. This Manor held by Ernald de Bosco, founder of Biddlesden, descended by the female line to Roger Corbet, who 6 Edward III. obtained grant of free warren there, and from him to Robert Corbet and his wife Sibella, with a reversionary interest in default of heirs to John Lovet, who had married Isabel, daughter of Ernald de Bosco, the younger, and whose only daughter Elizabeth was the wife of William Lord De La Zouch.\* And when, in the reign of Edward III. repeated destruction of the crops by blight, added to the periodical occurrence of a fatal distemper among the cattle, had thrown out of cultivation large tracts of land in Buckinghamshire,† and so impoverished the tenants under Biddlesden, that many of them were unable to pay their rents, whereby the revenues of the Monastery became reduced to such an extent, that the religious services were neglected, and the house almost empty, and unable to offer its customary hospitality to the wayfarer and the poor, Robert Corbet in the year 1371 richly augmented its endowments with four cottages at Ebrington, seven virgates in Ebrington-field, and keep for one bull and twelve cows, with his whole rights of pasture on Ebrington-common, together with one messuage at Charingworth.

Some years previously Robert Corbet and his wife had sold for one hundred marks the advowson of Ebrington Church with an acre of ground appurtenant, to their relative William Lord De La Zouch, and he in 1378, "for the affection he bore to the memory of his kinsman "Ernald de Bosco, buried at Biddlesden," conveyed his

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\* Fosbrooke's Gloucestershire, vol. 2. page 332.

† The distress in Buckinghamshire from the failure of the crops and loss of the cattle, is attested by the Nonarum Inquisitions of 14 & 15 Edwd. III. Other Religious Houses besides Biddlesden suffered from this misfortune. Luffield Abbey sought a Royal Licence for the augmentation of its revenue in 1330, and the petition of the Prior of Chetwode praying for the annexation of the Parish Church to his House, alleges in support of his request—*quod expensas Prioratus per sterilitatem agrorum et alia infortunia per istam concessionem minime valcat exonerari.*

advowson and land to the Abbey; John Lovet, of whom it was held in capite, Robert Corbet, James Rex Castel, joining with confirmatory charters, together with Henry Denys, husband of the sister of Robert Corbet, who for a fine of one hundred marks sanctioned the conveyance.

The appropriation of this rectory was further secured by the Archdeacon of Gloucester, the Prior and Canons of Worcester, the Bishop of Worcester, (who appointed the ordination of a vicar, vesting the patronage in Biddlesden,) the Archbishop of Canterbury, and ultimately by Pope Urban in 1381. At the dissolution the value of Ebrington Rectory was returned at 16*l*, 6*s*. 8*d*. annually, reduced however by the payment of 6*l*. to the Vicar, 13*s*. 4*d*. to the Bishop of Gloucester, a like sum to the Prior of Worcester, and 1*s*. 4*d*. to the Archdeacon of Gloucester.

The Charter of Lord De Le Zouch granting the advowson of Ebrington, and the acre of land annexed to it, probably misled Dodsworth, on whose authority Willis appears to rely, in attributing the donation of the large landed estates in Ebrington which Biddlesden held to the De La Zouches, an error strengthened no doubt by the existence of a mutilated tomb of one of this family at Biddlesden, when Willis surveyed the ruins of the Abbey on 5th Oct. 1709. And any doubt that may have arisen from any supposed confusion of the original grant with its confirmatory Charters, is set at rest by the evidence of a document of Peter De Mas, Abbot 1376-93, in which he enjoins his consent to receive into the benefit of their prayers *nobiles viros, Dominos, Robertum Corbet patrem, et Robertum Corbet filium, milites, tanquam fundatores, ac nobilem Dominam Beatrisem uxorem prædicti Roberti patris, ac bonæ memoriæ Sibillam nuper uxorem dicti Domini Roberti patris, necnon Aliciam nuper uxorem dicti Domini Roberti filii tam defunctas, ac ceteros liberos Roberti et Roberti tam vivos quam defunctos, qui pauperem domam Monasterii de Bitlesden multiplicuerint de donis suis et bonis temporalibus uberrime ditaverint.\**

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\* Harl. MSS. 4714. fol. 271.

REMARKS UPON THE FORMER ABUNDANCE, AND  
THE PRESENT NON-EXISTENCE OF SALMON  
IN THE RIVER THAMES.

BY GEORGE VENABLES, *Incumbent of Christ Church,  
Friezeland, Manchester.*

*(Continued from Vol. I, page 276.)*

An elaborate Act upon fish and fisheries marks the first year of George the First.

Its chief object is to hinder fresh fish taken by foreigners from being brought to England—it gives leave for the importation of lobsters and turbot in “Foreign Bottoms.” But at the 14th section complaint is made that the several Acts of Parliament have proved ineffectual in respect to the rivers Severn, Dee, Wye, Teame, Weere, Teas, Ribble, Mersey, Dun, Air, Ouze, Swaile, Calder, Wharf, Eure, Darwent, and Trent, and charges that the laws shall be obeyed.

I think this is the first time in which the Severn and the Wye are mentioned. We may presume, I suppose, that the law was better obeyed in other localities; and in the Thames we can quite understand that the law would be much more easily enforced, under the authority of the Lord Mayor and Fishmongers’ Company, so far as their jurisdiction extended.

I have met but with one more Act of any interest to the fisherman, and that is certainly a very singular one, from the medley of matters to which it refers. It was made in the 23rd year of George II. (cap. xxvi.) It regulates pilots, permits rum from British plantations to be landed free, prevents frauds in the measurement of coals, continues sundry laws against the exactions of occupiers of locks and wears upon the river Thames westward, makes a proviso for the river Ribble, by which it is again made lawful to take salmon there between 1st January and 15th September, as it is found that this is the proper season for that river, the permission having been repealed, (I suppose by an oversight) in an Act of George I. already

spoken of. This 26th George II., concludes with an enactment for preventing the destruction of turnips, and the better regulation of attorneys and solicitors! And this completes, so far as I know, any important legislation about Fisheries, but I have no means at hand for examining the decrees of the present century.

I trust this little digest, which is however, far longer than I anticipated, may not prove useless. It is surely well to trace up, through succeeding ages, the interest shown even in a fishery, while the information obtained by inference from such documents as I have quoted, of the manners and customs of the people, and of the care with which natural productions were regarded, is pleasing to the antiquarian, and perhaps, profitable to all.

An editor of Walton, records in a note, a copy from a London newspaper, for 18th April, 1789, which informs us that "*the largest salmon ever caught was brought to London yesterday ; 4 feet long, 3 feet round the thickest part of the body ; its weight 70lbs. within a few ounces.*"

No salmon were allowed to be bought (by 1 George I., sect. 18), under six pounds in weight.

I find elsewhere, a memorandum of a salmon caught in the river Usk, weighing 68½lbs., four feet nine inches in length, and sixteen inches in breadth. Mr. Pennant mentions 74lbs. as the greatest weight of one salmon he had ever heard of. It is said by some that the larger the fish, the better the quality, but the fish mentioned as brought to London in 1789, was sold at one shilling per pound.

The capture of a salmon in the river Tyne, which was four feet one inch and three quarters long, and weighed fifty-four pounds, is recorded in the Annual Register for 1760, as a remarkable circumstance.

Nor less singular is an account in the Annual Register for 1764, when a Mr. Gleditch presented to the Royal Academy his observations on the method of increasing the fecundity of salmon and trout invented by Mr. Jacobi. From what is there stated it appears that the scheme of Mr. Jacobi was almost, if not quite, the same with that now being tried in Scotland.

The remainder of this treatise will be devoted to salmon in the Thames, and especially in one of the most lovely parts of that beautiful river.

About 120 years ago, there came to live at Cookham, in

Berkshire, a highly respectable man, whose daily duties led him to the perhaps most ancient pursuit in the way of trade which exists in England, namely, that of fishing, and cultivating and cropping the numerous osier beds, which form many of the pretty islets in the Thames. In after years he removed three or four miles lower down the river, where he ended his days at an advanced age, being I believe, over 80 at the time of his death. His son succeeded him, and carried on the same trade very successfully and honourably, and died a few years since in a good old age, deservedly respected, and esteemed for his upright walk and conversation.

The father and son, were men of much observation, and their pursuits would naturally give them many opportunities of exercising that faculty, which they seem never to have neglected.

The patriarch appears to have handed down by oral tradition whatever he knew concerning the fishery, and his son has left few records behind him, but they are very interesting and instructive in reference to salmon in the Thames. His son, (the grandson of the person first mentioned) now occupies the home, the osiers, and the fishery, which his two ancestors possessed, and has most kindly lent me the memoranda written by his father, adding thereto much valuable information of his own. He is, I am persuaded, able to throw much light upon the subject of salmon in the Thames.

His father's little manuscript-book is entitled—

*“An account of all the Salmon caught at Boulter's Lock and the Contiguous part of the Thames, from 1794 to 1821, both years included, that is to say, 28 years or seasons.”*

“Boulter's Lock” is about a mile above Maidenhead Bridge, opposite to Cliefden Wood, and its cascade is one of the finest on the river.

Each year's memorandum is contained in seven columns giving in succession—“the day of the month, the number of salmon caught, the place where caught, the weight, the age of the moon, remarks.”

It appears from this book, that in 1794, between May 20th and August 23rd, fifteen salmons were caught, whose total weight was 248½lbs., or the average weight, about 16½lbs. The largest weighed 25lbs., caught June 9,

and the smallest, caught August 23, weighed 11½lbs. One fish only was caught in the pool—(I suppose by net) All the others were taken in the Bucks; but this demands a remark.

Many persons would imagine that the salmon caught in the Bucks were taken as they were running *down stream*, just as the eels, for whom the Bucks are set, are caught.

But this is not the case; the salmon, when so caught, are going against the stream, and arriving at one of the Bucks, force themselves by an almost mysterious power through the rushing waters, over, or by the side of the Buck, (Butt?) but before they recover themselves from the extraordinary feat they have performed, are carried back, and falling immediately into the Buck, are caught in it. So at least I am informed by the intelligent son of the writer of the memoranda from which I am copying.

Amongst the "remarks" for the next year (1795), I find, that two salmon weighing twenty-one, and eighteen pounds, were sold May 11, at five shillings per pound, producing £9 15s! Nineteen fish were taken this year, eighteen in the Bucks, and one in the Lock pool. The average weight was little over eight pounds. Two fish weighed four pounds only, and the worthy Observer notes, "this year was remarkable for small fish."

Of the eighteen salmon weighing 328lbs. caught in the succeeding year, (1796) he notices that the largest was caught April 28th, in the sixth Buck (there are nine Bucks) and weighed thirty-seven pounds. The smallest was caught August 11th, twelve pounds weight. "We caught eight in the Lock pool, and ten in the Bucks; not one in the Buck pool, for this year the Buck pool was productive of nothing but great stones and hangings."

"August 4.—We drew the Lock pool with a 6½ inch wide net, but caught nothing. We immediately after this stalled the net, and during the night caught two salmons of twenty, and sixteen pounds. We also on the night of the 11th of August, caught another by stalling in the same place, i. e. between the Lock and Buck pools, by running directly down from Arrow head to the tail of the pool."

1797 was a more abundant year. Thirty-seven salmon weighing 670½ lbs. rewarded the fishers toil. The largest

was caught March 27th, in the second Buck, of thirty-one pounds, but being dead, it sold for no more than 2s. per pound! But one note here is of special interest. We can almost realize the joy with which "April 25. I by myself had six in the first Buck, of 126 pounds, though they were not all perfectly in the Buck, but some in the thorough and head, and three in the tail, and two or three of them dead." "We caught in the same Buck this season twelve salmon that weighed 232lbs."

"The fish in general this year ran very large, (average 19lb., smallest 5½lbs.), but none of them went to a very good market, as many of them were caught in the Bucks, and thereby very much beaten. Only 2s. per pound for such fish!! 1798, sixteen fish, 317 pounds, some sold at 5s. per pound. The largest fish weighed twenty-eight pounds."

1799.—The century closed with a gift of thirty-six salmon this year to the respected fisherman of Boulter's Lock and Pool. Seven in June, nine in July, fifteen in August, five in September, averaging fourteen pounds. The largest weighing twenty-eight pounds again. The remark here, and elsewhere repeated, is worth consideration, as suggesting the habits of salmon. "Seventeen of the thirty-five salmon caught this year in the Bucks, were caught in one Buck, (viz., the *first* Buck.)

1800.—"It proves in this year that we caught twenty-nine salmons, that weighed 388lbs. One thing we have to notice, that this year we made use of a long purse net to the *first* Buck, fixed so as to admit the fish, after passing through the stopper hole; but we found on tryal that this did not answer, as we had several salmons killed in it; therefore we discontinued the practice after this and the following season."

The first Buck, however, again proved most successful, though not so much so as formerly. Seven were caught in it; nine in the other Bucks; ten in the Lock pool, and three in the Bucks pool. Seven in June; fifteen in July; and seven in August.

(To be continued.)

## MISCELLANEOUS NOTES.

**NASH CHURCH.**—On November 5th, 1857, the foundation stone of a Church at Nash, a populous hamlet in the parish of Thornton, was laid by the Hon. Richard Cavendish, of Thornton Hall, who, beside granting ground for the Church, Churchyard, and Schools, contributed £1,200 to the building fund. The intended Church is designed to hold nearly 300 persons, and is to consist of chancel with chancel aisle, and nave with north aisle. Architect, Mr. G. E. Street; builder, Mr. Wyatt, Oxford. The chancel was consecrated and opened for Divine Service on May 10, 1858.

**ROMAN COINS.**—A vessel, containing about 140 small Roman coins of brass, has been dug up by some labourers at Snelshall, near the site of the old Priory. Full particulars will hereafter be given by Rev. C. Lowndes.

**SKELETONS AT HOGSHAW.**—For an account of this discovery, see Report of the Annual Meeting.

**RESTORATION OF MENTMORE CHURCH.**—This Church has been completely restored, and a chancel and vestry added; in the former is a window of considerable proportions, corresponding with those in the rest of the edifice. The entire roof is of stained oak; the pulpit, reading desk, and seats, of the same wood. The aisles are paved with tiles, and can be heated throughout with hot air by well constructed flues. Mr. E. Stokes, architect; Mr. Myers, builder. Cost, £1,500; of which the Vicar contributed £300. A fine toned harmonium, presented by the Baroness Meyer de Rothschild, and a handsome Communion-cloth by the Vicar. The Church was reopened for Divine Service on May 11, 1858.

**FONT AT STONY STRATFORD.**—The late Hon. and Rev. C. G. Perceval, Rector of Calverton, who died 26th July, 1858, presented a handsome stone font to the Church at Stony Stratford.

**CURIOUS LEGEND ON A BELL.**—The tenor bell in Ivinghoe Church, dated 1628, is thus inscribed "Sacra

manet Christi plebisque religio vana." (Query, has this inscription any national reference?)

**HARVEST HOME.**—At Prestwood this good old custom, under the auspices of the Incumbent, the Rev. T. Evetts, R.D., has become a parochial festival, and was observed this year on the 7th of September. The proceedings began with a Service in the Church, where a sermon was preached suited to the occasion. After Service, the clergyman, the farmers, and labourers, with a few friends from the neighbourhood, amounting in all to 140 persons, assembled in a tent formed of rick-cloths, and decorated with laurels and appropriate devices. Here an excellent dinner was provided, with abundance of roast beef and plum pudding. The dinner was succeeded by loyal and seasonable toasts, songs, and addresses, the clergyman always seizing an opportunity of saying a few earnest and affectionate words, on the necessity of making harvest home a day of innocent rejoicing, and not disgracing the Christian character, by turning God's choice gifts into an occasion of sin. After a day of thorough enjoyment, the assembly broke up at a seasonable hour, and dispersed in peace and with cheerfulness.

**CONSECRATION FESTIVAL.**—An anniversary Festival similar to the foregoing, is observed at Prestwood, under Mr. Evetts' sanction, to commemorate the consecration of the Church, which occurred on the 19th of October, 1849.

**GUINEAS OF CHARLES II.**—A small brass box, containing three guineas of Charles II's reign, has been found by some labourers, while grubbing up the root of a tree on Whaddon Chase, near Salden. Further particulars will be given by Rev. C. Lowndes.

**OBITUARY WINDOW.**—An obituary window was opened in Colnbrook Church, on 5th September, 1858, to commemorate the late John Goldie, Esq., by whose munificence the Church was endowed.

**ANCIENT RING.**—A labourer in his garden at Stone, hoed up a gold ring set with a red stone (either a ruby or a carbuncle) in its rude state. It weighs nearly half an ounce; is of very pure gold, and, though without any inscription, is supposed to be a ring of Investiture of the 15th century.

**ROMAN BUILDING.**—The foundations of a Roman building were discovered on 21st September, 1858, in the parish of Ellesborough. An interesting paper on the subject, by John Stone, Esq., of Terrick House, will appear in the next Number.

**CHAPEL OF EASE AT WYCOMBE.**—The foundation stone of a Chapel of ease for Wycombe Marsh, was laid on 23rd September, 1858.

**HUMAN AND STAG BONES, &c.**—A large number of human bones, the perfect head of a stag, parts of the antlers of several stags, and the head of a spear, were found, Nov., 1858, by some labourers, on Benhill, a farm near Aylesbury, in the occupation of Mr. Terry, who has presented the spear-head to the Society. We have much pleasure in announcing that Admiral Smyth purposes to prepare for the next meeting of the Society, a paper on this interesting discovery.

**ANCIENT RELICS DISCOVERED.**—On 24th December, 1858, Mr. Fordham, in ploughing up a low boggy meadow, on his farm at Little Kimble, turned up a barbed spear-head, which he has presented to the Society. He also discovered a piece of Roman pavement; some small copper coins of Maxentius and Constantius; a Legionary coin; a Francisca, or the iron head of a small axe used by the Franks as a casting-weapon; and a few English coins.

**GREAT KIMBLE.**—A parsonage-house is being built, and some great improvements effected in the chancel of the Church, of which a fuller notice will be given in our next Number. Architect, Mr. Lamb.

**MARSWORTH CHURCH.**—This Church, which was in a dilapidated condition, is undergoing thorough repair and restoration, the particulars of which will be given when the work is completed. Architect, Mr. W. Slater.

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\* \* Members are requested to send to the Secretary early notice of any occurrences, bearing on Antiquities, Ecclesiology, local customs, or other memorabilia of their respective localities.

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## PROCEEDINGS OF THE SOCIETY.

AUGUST 5TH, 1858.—A General Meeting was held in the National School, Aylesbury. The Venerable Archdeacon Bickersteth, Vice President, in the chair. The Rev. H. Wanklyn, Hon. Secretary, read the minutes of the last Meeting; and, in the absence of the Treasurer from indisposition, gave a statement of the finances of the Society, which showed a balance in the Treasurer's hands, up to Dec. 1857, of £20 16s. 3½d.

The following gentlemen were elected members:—The Revs. O. J. Grace, Bledlow; J. Coker, Tingewick; R. C. Coker, Shalston; and Albert Way, Esq., Wonham Manor, Honorary Member. The following were proposed and seconded:—Godfrey Wells, Esq., The Elms, Chalfont St. Peter's; Revs. G. A. Cuxson, Halton; J. Wood, Aylesbury, P. Hodges, Cholesbury; J. Cecil, Esq., London.

An alteration was made in Rule II., by inserting before the words, "two Secretaries," the words "not less than." Rev. C. Lowndes, Hartwell; Rev. W. J. Burgess, Lacey Green; and Rev. W. H. Kelke, Drayton Beauchamp, were appointed Secretaries; Rev. H. Roundell, Buckingham; Rev. J. Tarver, Filgrave; and Captain Hibbert, Chalfont Lodge, were appointed local Secretaries for their respective districts.

Mr. FIELD presented to the Society, by the request of Mr. J. C. May, of Aylesbury, a well executed photographic view of the Church at Whitchurch, and a rubbing of a brass, evidently in a high state of preservation, in Chinnor Church, Oxford. It was suggested by the Rev. W. R. Fremantle, and generally approved by the Meeting, that, if practicable, it would be desirable during the winter, to deliver lectures in the principal towns of the County on antiquarian and topographical subjects, bearing more particularly on the respective localities. It was resolved to hold the Annual Meeting at Aylesbury, on the 30th of September.

It was considered advisable to rent a Room, as a Depository for the Society's stores, for the use of Committee Meetings, and to which all Members might have access. The Committee were requested to engage a Room suitable for the purpose.

SEPTEMBER 17TH.—A Committee Meeting was held, at which arrangements were made for the Annual Meeting; a Room for the use of the Society was engaged in Silver Street, Aylesbury; and, the Rev. H. Wanklyn having resigned the office of Secretary, the Rev. Charles Lowndes was appointed Acting Secretary in his stead.

SEPTEMBER 30TH, 1858.—The Annual Meeting of the Society was held this day, at Aylesbury. The proceedings commenced with an excursion

to the ruins of Quarendon Chapel. After the party, which included several ladies, had inspected the ruins, Archdeacon Bickersteth delivered an interesting lecture on the History of Quarendon, and, having been requested to allow its insertion in the Records, it is given in the present Number, substantially as delivered at Quarendon.

At two o'clock the General Meeting took place at the County Hall, where a large collection of "rubblings," coins, ancient books, and various other objects of interest were exhibited. The interesting collection of curiosities and antiquities sent by Captain Hibbert, deserves to be especially noticed.

ARCHDEACON BICKERSTETH, in taking the chair, said he deeply regretted that there had been no Annual Meeting last year, but he hoped that, with the change in the management of the Society, its usefulness would be much increased. He need not enlarge on the benefit arising from searching into the archaeology and architecture of our own neighbourhood. Such a study enables us to pick out what is true, and to reject what is false—to select that which is really valuable. The true object of all such enquiries is to draw on the stores of the past, so as to improve our own characters, and promote, what we all most desire, the greater glory of God.

The following presentations were made to the Society. I.—Portions of an iron blade, now broken in two pieces, which was found on the right side of a human skeleton, on the top of Hogshaw Hill; presented by Mr. John Curtis. Four skeletons were discovered here in the spring of the present year; two on one side of a small stone pit, and two on the other side, about eight or nine feet apart. They appeared to be buried in pairs, with about eighteen inches between them of undisturbed ground, as if a separate grave had been made for each. All the skeletons were found with their feet towards the east.

II.—A barbed spear head, presented by Mr. S. G. Payne. It was found on Philosophy Farm, Waddesdon, about three years ago, in the ribs of a horse's skeleton, and is supposed to be of the date of Edward III. A spur of an earlier date was found at the same time, and is now in the possession of J. James, Esq., Aylesbury.

III.—Four books, by J. Y. Akerman, Esq., Secretary to the Society of Antiquaries.

IV.—Two photographs of the North Front of Hartwell House, by the Rev. Charles Lowndes.

The following Gentlemen having previously been proposed, were unanimously elected Members:—J. Cecil, Esq., Aylesbury; Rev. J. Wood, Aylesbury; G. Wells, Esq., the Elms, Chalfont St. Peter's; Rev. P. Hodges, Cholesbury; Mr. C. Fowler, Banbury; Rev. J. E. Sabin, Preston Bissett; R. Rowland, Esq., Creslow; J. G. Hubbard, Esq., Addington; W. L. Sutton, Esq., Rossway House; Mr. S. G. Payne, Aylesbury; and Rev. J. Daubeny, Aylesbury.

The following papers were then read:—"On the Life and Labours of Browne Willis," by Rev. H. Roundell; "On the Pursuit of Archaeology," by Admiral Smyth; "Maister John Schorne," the North Marston

Saint, by Rev. W. H. Kelke; "A Letter Describing some Roman Coins found at Prince's Risborough," by Rev. W. J. Burgess. The Meeting having requested the publication of these papers, they will appear in the present, or in subsequent numbers of the Records.

The next business was the consideration of a proposal by the Messrs. Whellan, of Pontefract, to publish a Historical and Topographical work on Buckinghamshire.

The ARCHDEACON said he had carefully examined other County Histories, published by the same firm, which were executed in a style far superior to what he had anticipated.

Mr. SHERAN, on behalf of the firm, entered into some explanations on matters of detail; and on the motion of the Rev. H. Roundell, seconded by the Rev. J. N. O. North, it was resolved—

"That this Society, having received the proposals of Messrs. Whellan for the publication of a History of the County of Buckingham, desires to facilitate this object by the formation of a sub-committee, consisting of the Archdeacon of Buckingham, Rev. B. Burgess, Rev. H. Roundell, Rev. C. Coker, Rev. C. Lowndes, Rev. P. T. Ouvry, Rev. W. J. Burgess, Rev. W. H. Kelke, Admiral Smyth, and Captain Hibbert, with power to add to their number, to communicate with the Messrs. Whellan, and revise the sheets of this proposed history; and this Society further desires to recommend this undertaking to the support of the Members of the Association and residents of the County."

The ARCHDEACON next called attention to the propriety of taking immediate steps for the preservation of Quarendon Chapel, and a Committee, consisting of himself, the Rev. C. Lowndes, and Mr. J. K. Fowler, was appointed to carry out the object.

The Rev. P. T. OUVRY moved, and Mr. J. K. Fowler seconded, a vote of thanks to the Archdeacon for presiding, and also for his interesting lecture in the morning, which having been briefly acknowledged, the meeting separated.

OCTOBER 19TH, NOV. 22ND, NOV. 28TH, 1858—Committee Meetings were held at the Society's room, in Silver Street, Aylesbury, when communications between the Secretary and the Messrs. Whellan were read and discussed. It was agreed that the Messrs. Whellan should issue a circular letter, and a list of queries, drawn up and approved by the Committee, together with a list of the Members, and the Rules of the Society.

The following gentlemen were also proposed and seconded:—Rev. H. Ferrier, Chalfont St. Peter's; R. Sutton, Esq., 44, Queen Ann Street, Cavendish Square, London; Mr. E. Terry, jun., Aylesbury; Mr. R. M'Cormick, Aylesbury; Mr. J. Griffiths, Aylesbury.

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**AYLESBURY ARCHITECTURAL AND ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY**  
**FOR THE COUNTY OF BUCKINGHAM.**

**ABSTRACT OF ACCOUNTS FOR TWO YEARS, ENDING DECEMBER 31st, 1857.**

**Receipts.**

|                                    | £  | s. | d. |
|------------------------------------|----|----|----|
| Balance in Treasurer's hands ..... | 26 | 5  | 6  |
| Subscriptions 1856-7 .....         | 39 | 16 | 0  |
| Arrears and in advance .....       | 26 | 7  | 0  |
|                                    | 66 | 3  | 0  |
| By Sale of "Records" .....         | 0  | 5  | 6  |

£92 14 0

**Payments.**

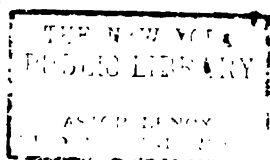
|                                                  | £  | s. | d.  |
|--------------------------------------------------|----|----|-----|
| Pickburn's Account to Dec. 31st, 1855 .....      | 18 | 13 | 3   |
| Ditto ditto (two years) to Dec. 31st, 1857 ..... | 27 | 1  | 11½ |
| Cowall's Bill and Post-office Order .....        | 0  | 15 | 9   |
| Lipscomb's Bucks .....                           | 10 | 10 | 0   |
| Archæological Institute .....                    | 1  | 1  | 3   |
| Advertisements, 1856 .....                       | 7  | 3  | 4   |
| Stationery, Stamps, and Parcels, 1856 .....      | 4  | 1  | 11½ |
| Incidental Expenses .....                        | 2  | 0  | 6   |
| Stationery, 1857 .....                           | 0  | 9  | 8½  |

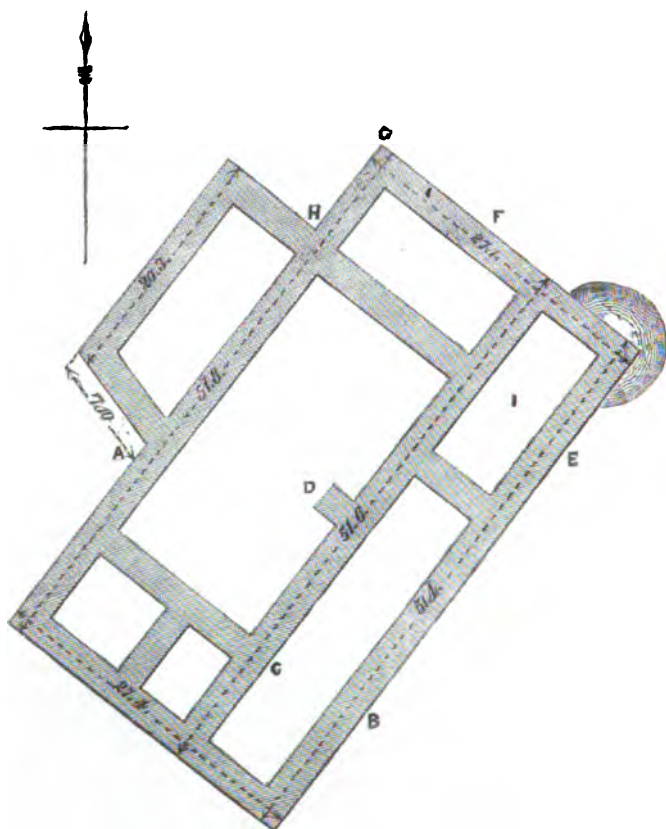
71 17 8½

Balance in hand to December, 1857 ....

20 16 3½

£92 14 0





ANCIENT FOUNDATIONS DISCOVERED AT TERRICK.

## NOTES ON ANCIENT FOUNDATIONS

IN THE PARISH OF ELLESBOROUGH.

On the 21st of September, 1858, in taking out some rough flint, which obstructed the plough, we came upon what had evidently been, or was intended to have been, the foundation of some building. This foundation was composed of pure flint, without there being the slightest trace of any mortar, cement, or even earth of any description used in its construction.

The land here lies in high ridges, and it was in lowering one of them that we touched upon these flints just in the highest part of it; the flints were lying about six or eight inches below the surface; on the sides of the ridge, and in, and near the furrow, the plough must have turned many of them up when the land was first ploughed.

This foundation spread over and enclosed an area (as may be seen from the annexed plan) of about 1600 square feet; the outer and interior walls altogether were about 290 feet long; they were from two to five feet deep, measuring from the surface of the ground; and two and a half feet wide generally, in some places a little more. The angles were none of them quite uniform, nor were the walls quite straight lines, but diverging six or eight inches in the long lines.

We commenced operations, as marked in the plan at A, and worked round to B, C, and so on until we had finished at A. In the whole of the walls, included in H, A, B and C, the flints were placed very loosely in, and we found no trace of any building, and it appeared very doubtful to me whether any building had been placed upon them. If there had, it must have been of a very light nature, as the flints seemed to have been thrown loosely in, and came out with very little labour, and were not more than from two to three feet deep. But after we had got to B and C, we found the flints had been laid in more carefully, and had been pressed very closely together, as if some heavy building had been placed upon them, and we found considerable difficulty in getting them

out with the pickaxe. I did not notice whether or not there was any parting in the outside wall at B, but the interior wall at C became suddenly from two and a half to five feet deep, and there was a marked difference also in the depth of the foundation at the corner H, as if this part of the building, included in H, A, B and C, had been added on after the other was built. The whole of the foundations, as marked in the plan from B, C, through E, F, G, and to H, were from three to five feet deep, the corners being the deepest, and laid with large flint at the bottom; the short piece at D, which seemed to be put for a buttress to the wall, and the bottom of the wall thereabout, were laid with flint from one to nearly three feet long, and wide and thick in proportion.

In and about the space marked I, we found a quantity of mortar, some of it half an inch thick, made of very loose material, principally sand, and faced with a very thin coat of cement or stucco, and coloured a bright red, as if a room of some elegance had been built here. This mortar was mixed up with the soil, some of it to the depth of a foot; there were also traces of mortar all along this side of the building from E to G.

It did not appear that any of the earth had been disturbed on the sides of the foundation until we reached E, but about six or seven feet from the corner at E we found on the outside of the exterior wall what had evidently been a receptacle for refuse, or a cesspool, which came close up to the foundation, and extended eight or nine feet round the corner at F, coming close up to the foundation also here, and being six or seven feet wide on this side, but not so wide on the other. This cesspool, or whatever it was, contained bones of different animals in considerable numbers; we noticed those of the cow, horse, sheep, swine, and goose, or some such large fowl, the bony parts of some sheeps' horns, a boar's tusk, oyster shells very much decomposed, shells of the small common snail, (which mouldered on being moved) a few pieces of Roman tiles, and a great many pieces of broken pottery, of which we noticed thirty different patterns—two pieces rather large, as may be seen from the sketch annexed,\* for which, together with the plan of the foundation, I am indebted to the pencil of the Rev. G. G. Ross, late curate of Ellesbo-

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\* See page 56.

rough. The soil of the cesspool, or refuse hole, consisted of ashes, apparently of wood, wood charcoal, and a very black mould.

This cesspool must have been filled up very gradually, and the bones, pottery, &c., first thrown into it when it contained fluid; for one piece of pottery, No. 1 in the sketch, which was lying on its side, with the mouth of it inclined a little downwards, was completely filled with soil that must have got into it when in a very soft state, and have gradually hardened so as to resist the pressure from above; for although there were three and a half feet of soil above it, it was not crushed out of shape, although cracked in several places. The piece No. 2 as sketched, appeared to have sediment in it like ashes and sand. The small piece, No. 3, when first taken out was of a bright yellow, but it has since turned black. The bones were all detached, and lying in various directions, not like animals that had been buried.

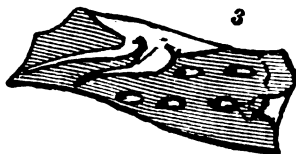
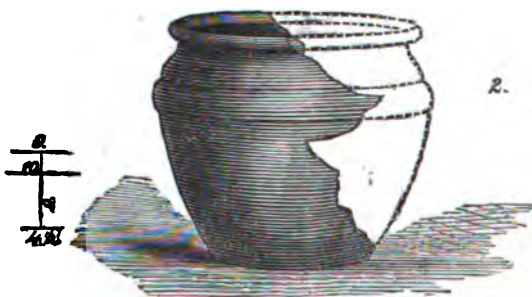
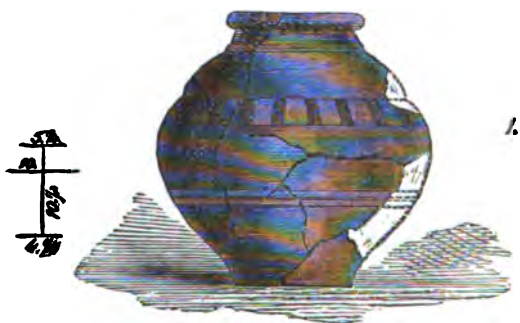
The earth had evidently been moved on both sides of the foundation from E to G, as we found bones and pieces of pottery at intervals all along both sides of these walls nearly as low down as the bottom of the foundation, but in very small pieces, so that some of this pottery might have been there, and I have little doubt was there, before these foundations were laid. I cannot help thinking however, that the refuse hole or cesspool, or whatever it was, and the pottery, &c., found therein, had been made use of by the people who inhabited the buildings placed upon these foundations, because there could be no mistaking the nature of the soil this refuse hole contained, which, as before stated, came close up to the foundation, and extended quite round the corner. If it had been there before, and had been circular, as most likely it would have been, the same kind of soil would have been found inside the wall as was found outside in the refuse hole, but I did not observe any. The pieces of pottery found at intervals along the wall appeared to be rougher and more rotten than those found in the cesspool.

We found no particle of metal whatever with the exception of two small bronze coins, evidently Roman, one on the foundation, and the other a short distance off. I may mention also that several Roman coins have been picked up in this field by the labourers at different times.

The field in which these ancient remains were discovered has always been known by the name of King's Field, and is situate at Terrick, in the parish of Ellesborough, in the County of Bucks, on the estate of Lady Frankland Russell, on the north side of the high road leading from Stoke Mandeville to Chequer's Court, and on the north side of, and near to Terrick-turnpike Gate.

JOHN S. STONE.

*Terrick House, Dec. 18, 1858.*



## COINS FOUND AT SOLDIERS' MOUNT,

IN THE PARISH OF PRINCE'S RISBOROUGH.

By REV. W. J. BURGESS, A. M.

The following is a short account of some coins recently found on a hill called Soldiers' Mount near to Prince's Risborough in this county. They are interesting memorials of that Colossal Empire, which, when they were first issued, held under its dominion the British Isles, and all countries Eastward to the borders of Persia. In all these lands Rome left durable vestiges of her power and achievements.

1. One of these coins is of the reign of Constantine the younger, who succeeded Constantine the Great in the Western Provinces, A.D. 337. The head is a clear but not very highly finished representation of Constantine. The legend contains only the latter part of the name "NUS JUN." The reverse a Roman standard between two soldiers who are armed with spear and shield. In the exergue T. R. P., *i. e.*, the place where the coin was struck, *viz.*, Treves. The piece of metal forming the coin has been cut so small as not to exhibit the full inscription intended.

2. A coin of Constantine the Great, A. D. 325, containing the head with helmet and wreath, and the legend "Constantinus Max.:" In the reverse are two Victories winged over an altar, with the legend "Victoria læ et princeps;" a victory joyful and most important. Might not this have been the victory gained by the Emperor, when, as related, the vision of the Cross appeared to him with the precept  $\epsilon\upsilon\ \tau\omicron\upsilon\tau\omega\ \nu\iota\kappa\eta$  "sub hoc signo vinces."

3. The accompanying coin is also one of Constantine's of very good workmanship. The head is helmeted, and in good relief. It may be worth notice, that coins of Constantine are those most commonly met with in this neighbourhood.

4. A coin of Claudius, but not of the Claudius first known in British history. The head is a radiated head of Claudius Gothicus, A.D. 268, with the legend J. M. P. CLAUDIUS AUG. The impression is in fine preservation, and represents the personal likeness of a monarch of very sharp distinctive features and expression. The reverse contains a singular emblem. It is the figure of Security leaning on a column and holding a sceptre. Legend SECURIT. AUG. "securitas Augusti" in the field, the Roman numeral XI.

The following address of the Roman Senate to the Emperor Claudius seems to illustrate the legend on the coin:—"Claudi Auguste, tu frater, tu pater, tu amicus, tu bonus Senator, tu vere princeps."

The cause of this flattering eulogy was the great success attained by this Emperor in his battles with the Gothic invaders of the Empire, and hence his title "Gothicus."

The place in which these coins were found is a hill overlooking the town of Prince's Risborough, and near to the well known Cross on White Leaf Hill. How far the cross, which is of Roman form, may be connected with Roman remains, and the Constantine coins in its neighbourhood, may be a fair subject for conjecture. The hill, on which these and other Roman relics have been found, is called the Soldiers' Mount, and furnishes an instance that local traditions have generally some basis of fact to rest upon; for the site in question is too bleak and inconvenient, and remote from water, to be the site of a residence, and is indicated, by its commanding position, as the *site* of an outpost, or summer camp of a Roman detachment. The coins themselves are of a military type, and might be the property of soldiers of the Roman Empire, occupying that post of observation, who had probably taken part in the victories described on the coins. It is also situated near the ancient Icknell way. There have been found here various other coins, and a portion of a Roman Bulla of glass, also a bronze clasp and pin of bone.

Lower down in the valley have been discovered the remains of Roman habitation, in a spot where a supply of water for the bath, a more genial air, and sheltered aspect gave the promise of a home of greater luxury and comfort than the adjoining heights.

Every discovery here made tends to show that it was during the latter period of the Roman occupation of Britain that its citizens or retired veterans settled themselves as colonists in this more retired portion of the Island.

Allow me to suggest, that if, when relics of any kind are discovered, notes be made of the site, the circumstances, and old associations of their locality, those hints may be collected and preserved, which will not only vastly increase the interest attached to such relics of the past, but tend to throw increased light upon ancient periods of our history, not the least *attractive* because the most involved in obscurity. In fact it is by such notices that the researches of history have been assisted. And while light has been thrown upon the important facts and dates of the historian, more accurate knowledge has been obtained of the condition and habits of the people described by him.

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#### A GLASS PAINTER AT WYCOMBE IN 1750.

John Rowell, who was by profession a plumber, practised glass-painting at High Wycombe in the County of Bucks, and afterwards at Reading, in Berkshire. He was employed by the late Duke of Richmond at Goodwood, and executed many pieces for Dr. Maddox, late Bishop of Worcester; particularly a history of Christ praying in the Garden, after a design of Dr. John Wall of Worcester. He painted a set of windows for Dr. Scawen Kenrick, in the Church of Hambledon, in Buckinghamshire. He did the Nativity of Christ, and the Roman Charity in two large windows: the former was purchased of his widow by Mr. Chute, of the Vine, in Hampshire; the latter by the late Lord Viscount Fane. The colours in some of his paintings stand very well; in others they have been observed greatly to fail. He discovered the beautiful red which is so conspicuous in our old windows; but this secret is supposed to have died with him, in the year 1756. —(*From Granger's Biographical History.*)

## MASTER JOHN SHORNE.

The village of North Marston, which has lately become somewhat celebrated for a memorial window, raised by the Queen to John Camden Neild, who bequeathed to her Majesty his ample property, was once far more celebrated for the memorials which it contained of Master John Shorne. This notable personage, though not to be found in the Roman Calendar, was once an acknowledged Saint, as clearly appears even from the few disjointed notices of him which still remain. He is sometimes called Sir John, and Saint John, but more commonly Master John Shorne. Having previously been rector of Monks Risborough, he was presented to North Marston, in the year 1290, and continued to hold this rectory till his death. While at North Marston he became renowned, far and near, for his uncommon piety and miraculous powers. In proof of his sanctity, tradition informs us that "his knees became horny, from the frequency of his prayers;" and in proof of his miraculous powers, two great facts, in particular, are recorded. There is still at Marston a "Holy Well," which, by virtue of his benediction, is said to have been endowed with healing properties. But the principal achievement of his faith—the one great act of his life—was the imprisoning the devil within one of his boots. This was the astounding miracle which raised him to the dignity of a Saint, and won for him the veneration of centuries. How he accomplished this extraordinary feat;—how long he retained his prisoner in "durance vile;"—and how far sin and crime were diminished, during the captivity, neither record nor tradition informs us. Of the fact itself, or rather of the general belief in such an occurrence, we have abundant evidence. It is alluded to in almost every written and traditionary notice of Master Shorne, and was commemorated in sculpture, on rood-screens, and in painted windows. There was formerly a representation of "the Miracle" in the chancel window at North

Marston, as we learn from Willis, who says: "Mr. Virgin,  $\bar{p}$  ultimate Vicar there told me that at his first coming, [in 1660] there was the picture in glass of Sir John Shorne, with a boot under his arm, like a bag-pipe, into which he was squeezing a moppet, representing the D."\* Similar representations of him were introduced into churches in distant parts of the kingdom. Two of them, one at Gately, the other at Cawston, both in Norfolk, still exist, and are described by the Rev. James Bulwer, in an interesting paper, which is published in the *Journal of the Norfolk Archæological Society*. "The attention of the Society," says Mr. Bulwer, "was lately called to a remarkable figure on one of the panels of the screen in the Church of the village of Gately. This Saint—for such his situation, as well as the glory round his head, shows him to be—holds in his left hand a boot, in which may be seen the semblance of an imp or devil: whether in the act of ascending or descending may be doubtful. The legend, to be presently noticed, would lead us to suppose the latter. The right arm of the Saint is extended, and the thumb and two first fingers of his hand raised towards the boot.† When this painting was first noticed, the lower part of the panel was hidden by the stairs of the pulpit; but letters of an early form being clearly marked on the pedestals of other figures not concealed by the stairs or pews, it was suggested that a name might possibly still be legible at the base of this panel also. An interest was thus created about it, which was strengthened by the recollection that a similar figure on the screen at Cawston had baffled all the ingenious guesses of our ecclesiologists. Inquiries were made; and a member of the committee, acquainted with the parish of Gately, undertook the temporary removal of the obstructions. This energy was rewarded by his distinctly reading, on the label, "Magister Johes Schorn." This was indeed an important discovery; for it showed beyond a doubt for whom this curious portrait was intended. Mr. Bulwer has given an illustration of this painting, and also one of the painting at Cawston; and, in speaking of them, he says: "It is clear, from inspection, that both are intended to represent the same per-

\* Willis's MSS. in the Bodleian Library.

† It is worthy of remark, that the thumb and fingers appear in an impossible attitude.

sonage. The caps, cloaks, and hoods are of similar form and colour—the dress of a Doctor of Divinity—and the same cast of features is, I think, observable in both. The imp in the Cawston painting differs from the same object in that at Gately, but it is equally significant of the spirit of evil, over which the Saint appears to be displaying his power.” While it is evident, as Mr. Bulwer observes, that these two paintings are intended to represent the same person, and to display the same act for which he was celebrated, yet the difference between them, as represented by Mr. Bulwer’s illustrations, is sufficient to show that they could not have been copied the one from the other; nor does either of them exactly agree with Mr. Virgin’s description of the same personage, as formerly represented in the window at North Marston Church; for in this last instance the Saint is described as holding the boot under his arm like a bag-pipe, whereas it is represented in the Gately and Cawston figures as grasped by his hand, and hanging down in front of his person. On the Cawston screen the portrait of the evil spirit bears no resemblance to the same object on the Gately screen; and the Saint himself in the latter instance stands on a bracket, but in the Cawston screen he stands on a pavement. These diversities show that the artists must have allowed some licence to their own imaginations.

By the kindness of the Rev. J. Smith, the Vicar of Gately, I am enabled to give an illustration of the screen in his Church, by which it would appear, from the bracket on which the Saint stands, that the portrait has been copied from a statue or image; and such an image, as will shortly be noticed, once existed in North Marston Church. Indeed there still exist, at the east end of the south aisle, vestiges of an altar which was probably dedicated to Sir John Sherne. On each side of the space occupied by this altar there still exists a niche, evidently designed for an image or statue; and the bracket of one of these niches resembles that represented on the Gately screen; whence we may not unfairly conjecture that the Gately screen still exhibits a copy from the original image in the Church at North Marston.

“The figure on the Cawston screen,” says Mr. Bulwer, in a letter to me, “is upon paper, glued perhaps over an earlier embellishment. Since I mentioned the fact of its



**MASTER JOHN SHORNE,**  
*From the Rood-screen in Gately Church.*



wonderful healing properties to his "Holy Well." Here he had performed that astounding miracle which had filled the country with his fame. And here, apparently, he died and was buried; for in his will, a copy of which is given in Lipscomb, he describes himself as "Rector of the Church of Northemaston," and directs his body to be buried in the Chancel, before the High Altar, in a tomb which he himself had prepared for the purpose. His will is dated May 8th, 1308, which was eighteen years after his presentation; but, as his successor was not presented till 1314, he probably held the Rectory of North Marston about twenty-four years. After his death, but how soon is not known, he appears to have been raised to the dignity of a Saint, for his remains were enclosed in a shrine, and became the object of numerous pilgrimages. Nothing is known of the embellishments or peculiar construction of this shrine; but, from the general veneration in which it was held, and the value of the offerings presented to it, it became an object of such importance that Richard Beauchamp, Bishop of Salisbury, who was appointed Dean of Windsor, in 1478, obtained a license from Pope Sixtus V. to "remove it wheresoever he pleased," and accordingly he removed it from North Marston to St. George's Chapel, Windsor Castle. Consequently, among the expenses for works done at this Chapel, the following items occur:—"For making and carving thirty feet of crests, thirty feet of trayles, eight lintels for the enterclose of the chapel of Master John Schorne."\*

Again, in an Indenture dated 1506, for roofing St. George's Chapel, at Windsor, it is covenanted "That the creastes, corses, beastes, above on the outsides of Maister John Shorne's Chappell, bee done and wrought according to the other creastes, and comprised within the said bargayne."†

Willis gives a different account of the removal of the shrine. He says—

"Before the time of Hen. the 4th, the Vicarage was appropriated to the Convent of ———."

"About this time, or soon after, the Convent did, in a solemn manner, and with a great deal of ceremony, exchange the Vicarage and Parsonage of N. Marston for

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\* History of Windsor Castle, cited by Mr. Bulwer.

† From an article by Mr. Thoms, in *Notes and Queries*, Vol. II, 388.

another Parsonage in N. Hamptonshire, called \* \* \* which was appropriated to the College of Windsor \* \* and the Vicarage was very considerable on account of offerings at the tomb of John Shorne, formerly Rector of N. Marston, to the value of £300 per annum.

"Mr. Sherrier, late Vicar there (who examined the records no farther than to confirm what income he had, or augment it) tells me that the main reason for the exchange of this lordship was the Monks of Windsor more easily to monopolize the wealthy shrine of Sir John Shorn; and the oblations of Pilgrims brought thither allowed the Monks of Osney a good bargain, and indented with their next Minister of N. Marston to give him the whole Rectory and Vicarage, provided they may remove the bones of Sir John Shorn to Windsor, which accordingly was done. The Monks published and bruited abroad what a Sovraign qualified Saint was come among them, against all diseases Spiritual and Temporal, Ghostly and Bodily; but the people of the Chiltern had Saints whose reputations were established there, so Sir John Shorn had no more respect than what he deserved. On this the Monks, weary of their purchase, and the they indented with another Incumbent to give his bones to N. Marston again."\*

The pilgrimages to this Saint were numerous, and, as the few remaining notices of them clearly indicate, were undertaken for different purposes. Bishop Latimer, in the opening of one of his sermons, says—"I have to tell you, at this present time, of a certain pilgrimage, which may be called the Christian man's pilgrimage; but ye shall not think that I will speak of the Popish pilgrimage, which we were wont to use in times past, in running hither and thither, to Mr. John Shorn, or to our Lady of Walsingham."† This allusion to "running to Mr. John Shorn" clearly indicates that pilgrimages to him were often voluntary acts of devotion; while, from other notices we learn that they were sometimes compulsory acts of penance. When Thomas Harding was martyred at Chesham, persons, who were known to favour his doctrines, were

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\* From MSS. in Bod. Lib., Oxford.

† Page 474—Parker Society's Vol.

punished in the following manner:—"Some," says Foxe, "were compelled to bear fagots; some were burned in their cheeks with hot irons; some condemned to perpetual prison; some thrust into Monasteries and spoiled of all their goods; some compelled to make pilgrimages to the great block, otherwise called our Lady of Lincoln; some to Walsingham; some to St. Romuld of Buckingham; some to the Rood at Wendover; some to Sir John Shorne, &c.)\* Again—"Isabel Gardener and John Gardener were forced by their oath to detect the Vicar of Wycombe for speaking against pilgrimages in the company of John and Elizabeth Gardener, as he was going to our Lady of Lincoln for his penance enjoined by Bishop Smith. Also the same time as he met certain coming from St. John Shorne, for saying they were fools and calling it idolatry."†

As these pilgrimages were enjoined by the Ecclesiastics, it is evident that the veneration paid to Shorne was not the result of mere vulgar credulity. From other notices we learn that Shorne was famed for curing the ague, and that some pilgrims sought his aid for this purpose.

In Michael Wodde's Dialogue, quoted by Brand, we read—"If we were sycke of the pestylence we ran to Sainte Rooke; if of the ague, to Sainte Pernel, or Master John Shorne."‡

The same fact appears in some curious verses quoted by Foxe, who tells us that Lord Cromwell kept about him "divers fresh and quick wits, by whose industry and ingenious labours, divers excellent ballads and books were contrived and set abroad concerning the suppression of the Pope, and all idolatry." Among these "divers excellent ballads" one was entitled "The Fantastic of Indolatrie," in which occurs the following stanza:—

"To Maister John Shorne,  
That blessed man borne;  
For the ague to him we apply,  
Whiche juggleth with a bote:  
I beshrowe his herte rote  
That wyle truste him, and it be I."§

From the foregoing notices, then, we learn that these

\* Foxe, Vol. IV. 580.

† Ib. page 232.

‡ Notes and Queries, Vol. II. 387.

§ Foxe, Vol. V. 406.

pilgrimages were undertaken as voluntary acts of devotion ; as penance for alleged heresy ; and in the hope of being cured of the ague. Each pilgrim probably presented an offering to the Saint, and the annual amount of these offerings appears to have averaged the startling sum of £500, or, according to the present value of money, *from five to ten thousand pounds a-year.*"\*

But whether these pilgrimages and offerings were all made to the shrine at Windsor, or partly to that, and partly to North Marston, is doubtful. Certain it is that after the shrine was removed from the Church at Marston, there were other memorials of the Saint left there which continued to attract his devotees. Besides the Holy Well, which will presently be noticed, there was an image of Sir John Shorne in the Church, which Dr. London, one of the Commissioners in 1538 for the suppression of monasteries, mentions in a letter to Lord Cromwell:—"At Merston, Mr. Johan Schorn stondith blessing a bote, whereunto they do say he conveyed the Devill. He ys moch sawgt for the agow. If it be your lordeschips pleasur, I schall sett that botyd ymage in a nother place, and so do with other in other parties wher lyke seeking ys.

Your most bounded oratour and

Servant,

JOHAN LONDON.†"

The image here mentioned, which was evidently the object of pilgrimages, especially by sufferers from ague, appears to have represented the Saint in the act of blessing the boot into which he "conjured the devil;" and, as such is the attitude of the figure on the Gately screen, it is another evidence of its having been copied from this image.

Joane Ingram, in her will dated 1519, amongst other legacies, bequeathed "to Master John Shorny's light, a pound of wax."‡ As the shrine had been previously removed to Windsor, this light in honour of Sir John Shorne was doubtless kept burning before the image, which was

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\* See History of Windsor, p. III., cited by Lysons, who says at least £5,000 ; but money was in the fifteenth century equal to nearly twenty times its present value.

† Letters on the Suppression of Monasteries, by the Camden Society, page 218.

‡ Lipscomb.

probably designed as a substitute for his shrine. Had this image been of stone, Dr. London would probably have contented himself with breaking it into fragments, but most likely it was of wood or some light material, and had something curious or valuable about it; for we find by another letter from Dr. London, that he sent it among other relics to his employers in London. His letter, which appears on page 224 of the work before-named, is supposed to be to Sir Richard Rich, and is so curious and characteristic, that a rather copious extract will, it is hoped, be a pardonable prolixity:—"Right Worshipfull, in my most hartie maner I have me commendyd unto yow, I have pullyd down the image of your lady at Caversham, with all trynkettes abowt the same, as schrowdes, candels, images of wexe, crowches, and brochys, and have thorowly defacyd that chapell in exchuyng of any farther resortt, ffor even at my being ther com in nott so few as a dosyn with imagies of wexe. The image ys thorowly plated over with sylver. I have putt her in a chest fast lockyd and naylede, and by the next barge that comythe uppe it schalle be browght to my lorde, with her cootes, cappe, and here, with dyvers relykes, as the bles yd knyfe that kylled seynt Edward, the dagger that kylled kinge Henry, schethe and all; and I myssed no thing here butt only a piece of the holy halter Judas wasse hangud withall. Here song a chanon of Notley, wiche hadde conveyd home to hys master as great a relik as any of thees befor I com; but I wyll have hym, and schall send it to my lorde. And thys wek folowing I will send uppe Mr. Johan Schorn, and so as many as I fynde." There must have been something peculiar about the image of Mr. Johan Schorn, as well as that of our Lady of Caversham, or it would not have been sent up, or named among the other curious relics. Dr. London describes it as "standing blessing a bote; and as much sought for the ague." It was therefore, probably, to this very image that that curious stanza referred, which has been quoted from the "Fantasie of Idolatry," and in which the Saint, or rather his image, is described as "juggling with a boot." On this stanza, Dr. Maitland has a remark very much to our purpose. After quoting it he says—"The verse which I have quoted seems as if there was some relic which was supposed to cure the ague, and by which the juggle was

carried on." Here then, apparently, we have just such a relic in the image at Marston, which "stondeth blessing a bote," and by which boot, doubtless, the juggle was carried on. We all know a curious little toy called "Jack in a box," and by a similar contrivance in the boot held by the image, a figure of the evil spirit might be made to ascend and descend at the pleasure of some cunning bystander who, by thus exhibiting the wonderful miracle of the Saint, to the great consternation of the credulous, might really cure many who were suffering from nervous complaints.

A glance at the Saint on the Gately screen will at once shew how feasible is this conjecture. The boot, which he there holds in his hand, with the little imp peeping out of it, forcibly reminds one of "Jack in the box." Certainly this ingenious toy can be nothing more than a modern improvement of "Nick in a boot," and in common justice to Maister John Shorne we ought to award him the credit of the invention.

This famous boot is often referred to, and ridiculed by our Reformers, among other popular relics. "Here," says Bishop Bale, "were much to be spoken of St. Germain's Evil, St. Sithe's Key, St. Uncomber's Oats, Master John Shorne's Boot, St. Gertrude's Rats, &c."\*

Foxe also relates a curious circumstance which occurred on a Relic Sunday, when all who joined in the procession were required to carry some relic. He says that "Testwood (the martyr) perceiving the dagger in Master Hake's hand, and being merrily disposed, stepped forth out of his place to Dr. Clifton, and said 'Sir, Master Hake hath St. George's dagger. Now, if he had his horse, and St. Martin's cloak, and *Master John Shorne's boots*, with king Harry's spurs and his hat, he might ride where he would.'"<sup>†</sup>

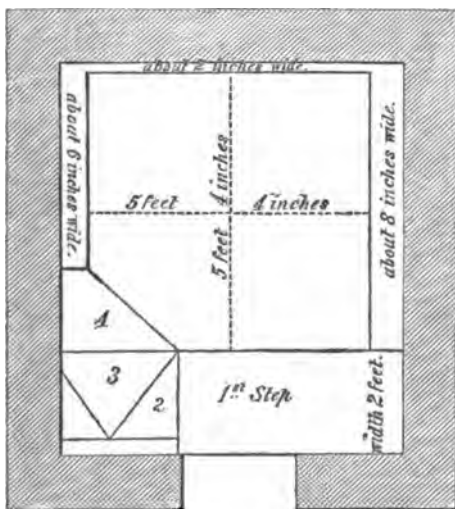
The Holy Well, which bore Sir John Shorne's name, and was supposed to have derived its medicinal qualities from his prayers and benediction, is situated about one hundred and fifty yards from the Church. It is still known by the villagers as Sir John Shorne's Well, but is commonly called "The Town Well." It consists, as shown in the diagram, of a cistern, five feet four inches

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\* Select Works of Bale, page 497.

† Martyrology, Vol. V. 468.

square, and six feet nine inches deep. This is walled round with stone, and has a flight of four stone steps descending into the water. This cistern is enclosed by a building, somewhat larger than the well itself, with walls composed of brick and stone, about five feet high, and covered with a roof of boards.



*Entrance.*

SIR JOHN SHORNE'S WELL.

From the size and construction of the cistern, it was probably occasionally used as a bath, but the sick were doubtless chiefly benefitted by drinking the water. The present building, which is entered at the north end, runs too closely round the verge of the cistern to allow of its being used for bathing. The water, which is supplied by a copious spring, near a footpath leading to Oving, was described in the Gentleman's Magazine, for 1820, as slightly chalybeate, and containing a large portion of calcareous earth. But even since that date, as will presently appear, its medicinal properties have varied. Formerly they must have been very powerful; for its supposed miraculous cures attracted such numbers of invalids to it, that houses had to be built for their accommodation. Browne Willis says that "many aged persons then living

remembered a post in a quinquievium on Oving hill (about a mile east of the well), which had hands pointing to the several roads, one of them directing to 'Sir John Shorne's Well.' " He likewise says, according to Lipscomb, that "several ceremonies were practised here on account of this gentleman." But Lipscomb's transcripts from Willis are not to be trusted; for instance, he says the miracle of Shorne was "recorded on the wall which inclosed the Holy Well when it was visited by Browne Willis," whereas Willis's own words are, "at the South end of the town is a Well, known by the name of Sir John Shorn's Well, (perhaps so named from the tonsure) which tradition tells us had this inscription on the wall of it—

' Sir John Shorn  
Gentleman born  
Conjured the Devil into a Boot.' "

In the Marriage Register of North Marston occurs this entry: "It is said that the chancel of this Church of North Marston, nearly four miles south from Winslow, was built with the offerings at the shrine of Sir John Schorne, a very devout man, who had been Rector of the parish about the year 1290, and that this village became very populous and flourishing in consequence of the great resort of persons to a well of water here, which he had blessed, which ever after was called 'Holy Well;' but my parishioners now call it the 'Town Well:' its water is chalybeate. The common people in this neighbourhood, and more particularly some ancient people of this my own parish, still keep up the memory of this circumstance by many traditionary stories." This entry is signed "William Pinnock, September 12th, 1810." Mr. Pinnock has left no record of these "traditionary stories;" nor Browne Willis of "the ceremonies practised" at Marston, on account of Shorne. This is much to be regretted, for now it seems impossible to ascertain what they were. Doubtless the traditions mentioned at the opening of this paper were among the number, and probably an annual festival of decorating the well, as still observed at Tissington, in Derbyshire, was one of the ceremonies alluded to by Willis. There is still a tradition that a box for the receipt of offerings was affixed to the well, but this has not been the case within the memory of any person now living. The building, which enclosed the well when Willis visited it, has been

entirely removed, for the present building, though in a very dilapidated state, is comparatively modern, but probably older than any inhabitant of the parish. The water is no longer used medicinally, except to promote perspiration in colds. Of late years its chemical properties are so minute that its flavour scarcely differs from ordinary spring water. But some old people say they can recollect its being so strongly impregnated with iron as to be considered unfit for ordinary drinking, except by cattle, for whose use troughs were formerly placed round the outside of the building; but these have long since been removed. Now it is used for all domestic purposes, except for washing, for which it is too hard, and is the main supply of the parish, there being but few other wells in it, and those yielding water unfit to drink, being tainted with a muddy or brackish flavour. So copious is the supply of the "Town Well," that it ought to be regarded as a special blessing to the parish. However exhausted it may have been in the most droughty season, by water carts, &c., during the day, and when all ponds are dry, by the next morning the water of this well has generally risen again to its ordinary level. Though sometimes about Michaelmas the water subsides to the lowest step, it has never been known to fail.

This well is said to have first come into general use for drinking in the year 1835, when a fever prevailed in the parish, and the deaths amounted to nineteen, being only seven in the preceding year; since which no fatal epidemic has prevailed. So the general use of this well appears to have had a beneficial effect on the health of the locality. Certain it is that many of the inhabitants of Marston live to a great age, and but few comparatively die in childhood. Since 1835, the year the well came into general use, the births in this parish, containing a population of about 700, have been 486; the deaths, 304—thus in twenty-three years the births have exceeded the deaths by 182.

Sir John Shorne's Well, therefore, though it may have lost its pristine fame, is still exceedingly beneficial to the inhabitants of Marston. And it is to be hoped that, however little it may be prized as an object of antiquity, it will so far be valued on account of its salubrious water as not to be suffered to fall into decay or neglect, but be

speedily repaired and preserved as a blessing to future generations.

The Chancel, which is said to have been built by the offerings at the Shrine of Master John Shorne, is an exceedingly fine specimen of the Perpendicular style. Some old people of Marston can remember a niche outside the Chancel, over the east window, which contained two figures, apparently talking together. One of these figures is said to have been Shorne, and the other the devil with forked tail and cloven feet; but they were commonly called the devil and John Foster. They fell down about sixty years ago, and for some time lay in the church-yard, but all traces of them are now lost.

It is remarkable that Sir John Shorne, although so popular for centuries, should not have been canonised; nor is he to be found in any Biography or Catalogue of Mediæval Saints. Yet he was honoured with all the usual characteristics of one. Why then was the omission? The legend related of him is not more marvellous than those of many canonised Saints. We indeed cannot hear it without a smile, mingled however with pain. For painful it is to think, that in the palmy days of "merrie England" the credulity that could credit so gross an imposture as Shorne's miracle was almost universal; and still more painful is the reflection that the imposture was practised by those whose duty it was to enlighten the ignorant. We may be thankful that we live in an age when both the Civil and Ecclesiastical authorities are using every effort to save the credulous and ignorant from becoming profitable dupes to the deceptions of designing impostors.

For the ground-plan of the Well, and for much valuable information in the latter part of this paper, I am indebted to the kindness of the Rev. Richard Knight, the present Incumbent of North Marston.

W. HASTINGS KELKE.

## BIDDLESDEN ABBEY AND ITS LANDS.

BY REV. H. ROUNDELL.

(Continued from page 40.)

XX. In Brackley, County Northampton, 4 Hen. 8, Thomas Majo granted the Abbey one messuage in the street called Hancock's-lane, a cottage next the croft of St. Mary's Church, and one acre of arable land in the part of Brackley fields, called Castlefield, and in the same Charter he granted in

XXI. Evenley, County Northampton, three acres and a half, confirming them to the Abbey for the term of ninety-nine years, on an annual payment of six shillings to himself during his life, and afterwards a red rose, when demanded, to his heirs. The situation of this land is still marked by a farm and out-buildings on the Brackley and Fimcere road, known as "Monk's House," with which locality the terms of the original conveyance accurately coincide, describing Majo's lands as "*jacentes insimul et conjunctim in campis de Evenley intea terram modo in tenuram Agnetis Chapel ex parte occidentali et riam regiam ex parte orientali.*"

Besides the foregoing estates, this Abbey at different periods held lands in Cosgrove\* and Water Stratford,† Bucks, and Tusmore,‡ Oxon, and in 1296, the Abbot took a five years' lease of the Prebend of Sutton cum Bucks from Cardinal Neapolis, then Prebendary, at a rent of 120 marks per annum, giving as security for payment a mortgage upon all the property of the Abbey. This speculation proved unfortunate, and the rent fell into arrear, and a notification in the Norman French of the period is extant,§ from the Procurator of Buckingham to the Abbot of Biddlesden, declaring that in default of the payment of certain arrears of the salary of the Church of Sutton, he should seek his remedy at law; so that at the end of the second year the Abbot was glad to obtain the cancelling of the lease by payment of a fine.|| There

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\* Cart. Ant. 85 A. 15.

‡ Cart. Ant. 85 F. 26.

† Cart. Ant. 85 A. 23.

§ Cart. Ant. 84 D. 23.

|| Cart. Ant. 84 E. 26. The Lease of Sutton cum Bucks was afterwards taken by the Prior and Convent of Bicester. Dodsworth's MSS. in Bodleian, Vol. 63. folio 109 b.

are some grounds for conjecture, that a Hospital for the poor and sick was once attached to this Abbey. Several Charters early in the thirteenth century confirm to Biddlesden lands in Evershaw for the relief of the poor and infirm; and in one of these, executed on the occasion of a fine levied by Hugh de Evershaw, as Lord of the Manor, mention occurs of *Frater Adam Vitreanus, Custos Infirmitorii*. The Chartulary however supplies no distinct or very reliable information on this point.

After the passing of the Act for the Dissolution of the Lesser Monasteries, the Abbot, by payment of a sum of money to the King's Privy Purse, obtained a Licence for the continuance of Biddlesden. With the consent of his Monks, he then leased out the Abbey lands upon easy terms to various tenants. The greater part of the lands owned by the Abbey in Biddlesden, Wappenham, and Syresham, together with an enclosure of 110 acres in Evershaw, were let for ninety-nine years to Edmund Clarke at a rent of 29*l.* 7*s.* By a second lease for forty years Edmund Hazlewood obtained lands in Weedon Pinkeney at 5*l.* 6*s.* annually, and the tythes of the hamlet of Weston in the same parish, for 3*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* Another lease to Edward Bull and John Fellows gave them for forty years the rest of the Abbey lands in Weedon Pinkeney, with their tythes of wool, lambs and hides, at a yearly payment of four pounds, while a moiety of the tythes of Astwell and Wappenham were leased to John Lovet at 13*s.* 4*d.* per annum.

These leases, so disadvantageous to the Abbey, were evidently granted by the Monks in the vain hope of securing to their successors by a present sacrifice the fee-simple in their lands. And in the general scramble that was then commencing for the property of Religious Houses, other influences were brought to bear upon the Biddlesden Monks, not always with success, as the following answer of the Abbot to a request of Thomas Cromwell will shew:—

“ The Abbott and Convent of Biddlesden about letting  
“ of some of their lands at Evershawe.

“ Most mete and humble submission premised; It may  
“ like yo<sup>re</sup> Honor to bee advertized that wee have received  
“ yo<sup>re</sup> lettre datid the xxiiii daye of Aprill for the pre-  
“ ferment of yo<sup>re</sup> frende Master Edgarc, wherein yo<sup>re</sup>

"Honor willeth us to make the same a sufficient lese  
 "under oure convent seyle for ii closes with their ap-  
 "purtenances in Evershaw for the terme of XL yeres.  
 "forsomuch as wee in like manner received yo<sup>re</sup> former  
 "lettre datid the XVIII daye of Marche, and for the same  
 "purpose to the preferment of Edward Wilkynsonne, at  
 "which tyme and to whom I declared that one of the saide  
 "closes were already graunted, and the other wee cannot  
 "conveniently lett without decay of our poore howse, yett  
 "neverthesse at the contemplacion of that yo<sup>re</sup> fyrst lettre  
 "wee graunted unto the said Edward a Lese of certain  
 "closes, called Helmden Stokkyng, wherewith hee was  
 "well contentid and pleyed. Wherefore wee lowlye  
 "beseeche yo<sup>re</sup> Honor to conside and accept these pre-  
 "misses. And wee shall bee gladd according to our  
 "bounden dutie to pray for yo<sup>re</sup> Honor long to contynne.  
 "From Bitlesden the IIII daye of Maye.

"To the Kings Most Honorable  
 Chauncelor, and his especiall good  
 Lorde, the Lorde of Pryvy Seale."

Be this

"By yo<sup>re</sup> pore bedesmen } there." \*  
 T<sup>r</sup> Abbott and Convent }

But neither the King's royal word, nor the temporary alienation of their estates by these leases, availed to preserve Biddlesden. Upon the 26th of September, 1540, this Abbey and all its possessions were surrendered to the Commissioners who made this return—

"The Abbey of the *Cistercian* Order.

"Value by the first Survey, 130*l.* 4*s.* 3*d.*

"By the second Survey, 138*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.*

"Monks there 11, whereof Priests nine, Incontinent  
 "none, desirous Capacities one. An Abbot *quondam* hav-  
 "ing a Pencyon by Convent Seal 13*l.* 6*s.* 4*d.*, Servants  
 "51, whereof Hinds 24, waiting Servants 13, Boys and  
 "Children 9, Women for the Dairy 4, Bells, Lead, and  
 "other Buildings worth there by estimation 51*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*  
 "The entire Value of the moveable Goods 61*l.* 5*s.* 4*d.*  
 "Stocks and Stores none. Woods there 400 Acres."†

To the Monks were assigned pensions for their lives—  
 Richard Greene, Abbot, 40*l.*; Thomas Todd. Sub-Prior,

\* Harl. MSS. 604. Plut xxxviii. I. fol. 60.

† Willis Bucks p. 151.

6*l.*; and eight others 5*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* each; and the greater part of the estates were granted to Sir Thomas Wrythesley, subject, as the tenor of the grant shews, to the above-named leases and pensions, to a Royalty of Four Pounds per annum to the Crown, and a rent-charge upon the Biddlesden lands of 6*l.* yearly to the Curate of Biddlesden for his stipend. This payment formed the only endowment of the Incumbency till 1720, when it was augmented with 200*l.*, the gift of the Rev. W. Friend, Rector of Turvey, co. Bedford, and an equal sum from Queen Anne's Bounty, obtained by the exertions of Mr. Justice Denton, of Hillesden. The 400*l.* thus raised was subsequently invested in the purchase of land.\*

The parish Church, assigned as has been already stated to the Abbey in 1209, formed part of the Conventual Buildings. Within it, and the extensive burial-ground which once surrounded it, were interred many of the principal benefactors, and among them one William de Boys, who died in 1313, and was reported to have wrought many miracles at the time of his decease. A Rent in Buckingham had been given for the maintenance of a Light in this Church, and a small plot of ground at Water Stratford for the repairs of the Fabric; but as these rents were usually paid to the Abbot, no distinction was made at the Dissolution between them and the endowments of the Abbey, and the Church and Church-yard were included in the grant to Sir Thomas Wrythesley. Sir R. Peckham, a subsequent proprietor, who died in 1569, dismantled the building, and the parishioners then resorted for worship to a small Chapel dedicated to St. Margaret, which stood upon the south side of the demolished Church, and about one hundred and fifty paces distant from it. This Chapel (of which and the old Church an interesting account from the pen of the Rev. W. Hastings Kelke will be found at page 81 of the First Volume of the Records) was undoubtedly a foundation distinct from the Abbey, and had been endowed with lands in Evershaw, of the gift of Robert, son of Albert Integres. But even this Chapel was pulled down, by a future proprietor of the estate, Mr. Sayer, who at the same time desecrated the burial-ground

\* To the Lists of the Incumbents of Biddlesden hitherto published the contributor of this paper can add the name of Richard Earell A<sup>o</sup> 1632, on the authority of the pleadings in an Exchequer Suit. Denton v. Ingoldsby. Trin. Term. 7 Car. I.<sup>st</sup>

of the former Church, and removed every remaining trace of the Abbey. When re-building the mansion, he set apart a large room, under the same roof with the stables, and similar with them in its style of architecture, which, although unconsecrated, continues to serve the purposes of a parish Church.

The Biddlesden estates of this Abbey have so often changed hands that it will not be uninteresting to close this paper with the names of their successive owners, taken from Willis' *Mitred Abbies*.\* Sir Thomas Wryothsley sold, in 1541, the whole of his lands of the grant of this Monastery to the King's Cofferer, Edward Peckham. By Willis the Peckhams are called "the unfortunate proprietors of Biddlesden," and with reason, for George Peckham, son of Edward, not only lost his wife at Biddlesden in the 18th year of her age, within fourteen months of her marriage, but in 1578 suffered the confiscation of this and his other estates in Buckinghamshire. In 1582 Queen Elizabeth bestowed Biddlesden on Arthur, Lord Grey, Baron Wilton, whose son and successor, Thomas, convicted of high treason and imprisoned in the Tower, where he died, lost these lands by forfeiture to the Crown. James the First is stated to have given them to the notorious Robert Carr, Earl of Somerset, the murderer of Sir Thomas Overbury, from whom this estate again reverted to the King. It was next granted to Villiers, Duke of Buckingham, stabbed by Felton, at Portsmouth, and his son, George, sold it to Mr. Henry Sayer, merchant of London, about 1681. He, dying prematurely, left this property to his son, John Sayer, then a minor, who was murdered upon the 29th of January, 1713, by one Richard Noble, an attorney.† From this family Biddlesden passed by purchase to Earl Verney, whose niece, Lady Fermagh, sold it in 1791 to George Morgan, Esq., of Abercothy, co. Carmarthen, and his brother, Dr. Morgan, Prebendary of Gloucester, joint purchasers, in whose heirs the estate is now vested.

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\* Willis' *Mitred Abbies*. Vol. 2, p. 14.

† Mr. Sayer.—For further account, see a rare Tract entitled "Case of Jo. Sayer, Esq., from his marriage to his death, with the whole intrigue between Mrs. Sayer and Mr. Noble, at Kingston Assizes, 1713."

REMARKS UPON THE FORMER ABUNDANCE, AND  
THE PRESENT NON-EXISTENCE OF SALMON  
IN THE RIVER THAMES.

By GEORGE VENABLES, *Incumbent of Christ Church,  
Friezeland, Manchester.*

(Continued from page 45, Vol. II.)

In 1801 we arrive at the culminating point. After this the fishery begins to lessen in value, and in twenty years is extinct. What can happen during that period to drive all the salmon out of the Thames in which they have sported for centuries?

We find from the MSS., that just over half a ton weight of salmon was caught at this one fishery this year! Sixty-six salmon; total weight 1124 lbs.!! averaging 17 lbs. each. The largest, caught May 26th, weighed 37lbs.; the smallest weighed 6lbs.

"In April 2, in May 21, in June 15, in July 21, and in August 7, forty-seven were caught in Bucks; 11 in the pools; four in Buck net." (No. 1 was not so successful this year, perhaps the *net* would restrain the fish from leaping up that Buck.)

"Three in the Lock-head, and one *athwart a rack*."

Some special memoranda must be added here—

"May 14, 1801.—We caught one salmon in the second Buck at the Lock, 26lbs.; one in the Lock pool, 29lbs.; and three at the Lock-head the same day, 70lbs.; in all 125lbs."

He adds—"Friday morning, May 15, 1801—we had nine salmon in the Well Boat, that weighed 209lbs., sold for 2s. 6d. per lb."

No exact memorandum appears to be kept of the price which all the salmon fetched; but a significant note intimates that "Thames Salmon" was in favour; for he remarks—"1,124lbs. at 2s. 6d. per lb., *to say the least*, comes to £140 10s."

Has any one gained by the loss of such fisheries? Be it remembered, this is but one out of many on the Thames.

1802.—Eighteen fish, 297lbs., realizing 5s., 6s., 2s., and 1s. 6d. per lb. Two were caught “*athwart a rack*,” and one of these was dead.

1803.—Twenty fish, 374lbs. But then—“Although there have been but few fish this year, most of them have gone to a very good market; upwards of 240lbs. sold at 5s. per lb.”

Here are *sixty pounds* then, and 137lbs. of fish to sell at a lower figure—perhaps *only* 2s. 6d. per lb.!

1804.—“This year stands next in rank to 1801; in April 3, May 5, June 11, July 29, August 12, Sept. 2, —62. In the deep 1; in pools 17; in Bucks 44=62.” Largest 32lbs.; smallest 3½lbs. Price from 2s. 6d. to 5s. per lb.

1805.—“The only thing we can say is, that this was the worst season we ever knew; but very few fish, and none went to a very good market, viz.—seven fish, weighing 116lbs., 16½lbs. each.”

1806.—“Twelve fish, 245lbs.; 20½lbs. each. The largest weighed 33lbs., and fetched though caught in a Buck, £9 18s.”

One fish, weighing 22lbs., “was caught just at the top of the cut, in a cod-net, by my father and myself, and brother. For several days prior to this there had been some very heavy gales of wind from SW. and NE.”

Another salmon, weighing 32lbs., “was spoiled by going to London by a slow coach; instead of fetching 6s., it fetched only 2s. per lb.”

“This is one of the most extraordinary seasons we ever knew, for not a fish was caught from 16th June till 8th September, an interval which in general proves the most abundant part of the season.”

Only one fish was taken after June 16th, *i. e.* on Sept. 8th.

1807.—Although only 16 fish were taken, there was a return of £51 8s. 9d. for them; the highest price being 7s. 6d., and the lowest 2s. per lb.

The average weight—16 fish, 253lbs.; nearly 16lbs. each.

REMARKS.—“We may observe, from the catching of this fish, (which fetched 7s. 6d. per lb., and weighed 23lbs.) what an influence the weather has; for this was the only warm night we have had for near six weeks, and the water moderately low during the whole time.”

“It is very extraordinary in this year that not one fish

“ was caught in the month of May.” (Surely disturbing influences are already shown to be working in the Thames?)

1808.—“ Five salmon, 88lbs.”

The only remark here is—

“ Monday, May 23; caught one in the second Buck at the Lock; weight 18lbs.; sold at 8s. per lb.”=£7 4s.

“ This was the highest price we ever got for salmon.”

1809.—“ Eight fish; 116lbs.”

“ But very few fish this season, and those few went to a very bad market.”

June 21.—“ We may observe that the Lock was shut in, only the very day previous to the catching this fish (the first this season). From this we may infer that while the Lock remains open, there is very little chance with the Bucks.”

N. B. Doubtless he argues correctly. As long as the Lock was open there was a fair space for the fish to ascend: when this was shut in, the only way for the fish was to ascend by the Bucks, into which they often fell.

He adds, of the second salmon—“ This fish was caught athwart a rack, and, when we found him, he was quite dead, but not so far gone, but what he crimped very well by doing it immediately.”

1810.—“ Four fish, 70lbs.; at 2s. 6d. and 3s. per lb. All that is left to be said about this salmon season is, that it is a considerable deal worse than any former ones.”

What was the Lord Mayor about? Rather, what was doing in London?

An observant man, like the respected writer of these interesting Memoranda, however, could hardly fail of finding something else to say in spite of his foregoing remark—and here follows a curious but not unparalleled anecdote:—

Friday, 29.—“ One salmon, 18lbs.; 2s. 6d. per lb. This fish actually caught himself, which was by leaping into the punt while she was tied to the Campshot, close to the tail of the Lock Bucks in the night, where I found him the next morning dead. The Bucks were laid during the time.”

I may say a little about trout presently; but I will just mention here, as confirmatory of our worthy friend's

anecdote, that about eighteen years ago, a fine trout of four or five pounds weight, leaped into a garden close to the stream, and so was caught, being unable to return. This was at Snakeley Mill, upon the Wycombe stream, which, thirty years ago, abounded with trout.

1811.—“Sixteen salmon, 181½lbs.; from 1s. to 3s. per lb.; the largest 16lbs.; the smallest 4½lbs.” (The size of the fish decidedly inferior.)

“It is observed this year that the Lock was shut in only two days previous to the catching of the first fish, a standing proof that there is very little chance *with the Bucks* while any part of the Lock remains open.”

This is important, and shows that if salmon are to propagate, there should be a fair opportunity at every wear to allow them to work upwards.

“The last eleven fish that were caught were not only late in the season, but to make it still worse, they were very early swam fish, so, upon the whole, we may pronounce them out of season.” (They appear to have been caught in September.)

“It is very extraordinary, seven were caught at one hawl in the Lock pool, and three in the Buck pool the same day—ten salmon in one day, September 5, 1811.”

Query—Had these poor “out of season” fish taken their annual trip towards their marine residence; and had they found the waters about London in such a condition as to be afraid to venture through it?

1812.—“Eighteen salmon, 224lbs.;” average 12½lbs.

1813.—“Fourteen salmon, 220lbs.;” average 15¾lbs.; “two of these 22lbs. each.”

1814.—“Thirteen salmon, 97½lbs.;” average 7½lbs.

Notice the smallness of the fish. There must be a change in the state of the waters somewhere.

1815.—“Four salmon, 52lbs.;” 13lbs. average.

“It now appears that the Salmon Fishery in the Thames is falling off very fast.”

1816.—“Fourteen fish, 179lbs.;” barely 13lbs. average.

1817.—“Five fish, 76½lbs.” average 15½lbs.

1818.—“Four salmon, 48½lbs.;” average 12lbs.

1819.—“Five salmon, 84lbs.;” produced £16 13s. 6d.

1820.—“In the year 1820 not one salmon was caught by us, nor by any person within several miles of Boulter’s Lock.”

1821.—“ Two salmon are caught, weighing 18lbs. and “ 13lbs. ; the former on Tuesday, June 5, and the latter “ July 13.”

Here the record of salmon-taking ends. I think that occasionally within the last twenty years I have heard of a salmon being caught, possibly a fine trout was mistaken for a salmon, though this is not certain ; but of late years not one salmon has been seen.

The compendious view which follows is too useful to be omitted :—

*“ Number and Weight of Salmon caught from 1794 to 1821, both Years included.”*

| Year.      | No. of Fish. | Weight. | Year.                 | No. of Fish. | Weight. |
|------------|--------------|---------|-----------------------|--------------|---------|
| 1794       | 15           | 148     | Brought up            | 376          | 5966    |
| 1795       | 19           | 168     | 1809                  | 8            | 116     |
| 1796       | 18           | 328     | 1810                  | 4            | 70      |
| 1797       | 37           | 670     | 1811                  | 16           | 181½    |
| 1798       | 16           | 317     | 1812                  | 13           | 224     |
| 1799       | 36           | 507     | 1813                  | 14           | 220     |
| 1800       | 29           | 388     | 1814                  | 13           | 97½     |
| 1801       | 66           | 1124    | 1815                  | 4            | 52      |
| 1802       | 18           | 297     | 1816                  | 14           | 179     |
| 1803       | 20           | 374     | 1817                  | 5            | 76½     |
| 1804       | 62           | 943     | 1818                  | 4            | 48½     |
| 1805       | 7            | 116     | 1819                  | 5            | 84      |
| 1806       | 12           | 245     | 1820 (not one caught) |              |         |
| 1807       | 16           | 253     | 1821                  | 2            | 31      |
| 1808       | 5            | 88      |                       |              |         |
| Carried up | 376          | 5966    | Total . . . . .       | 483          | 7346½   |

“ If this Journal had been begun about twenty years “ earlier, say about 1774, our figures would have run much “ higher, both in respect to numbers of fish and likewise “ weight.”

“ I think it must be about the year 1780, that my father “ caught upwards of fifty salmon in that reach opposite “ Cliveden Spring, (about one and a half miles above “ Boulter’s Lock) and the other fishermen caught in equal “ proportion.”

“ I remember” (this was evidently written some years afterwards, perhaps under a feeling that such things would be doubted in a few years) “ catching a salmon in the “ Buck pool on 26th June, 1793, that weighed 42lbs. ; “ length four feet one inch.”

A little bill is stuck in the book, by which it seems, that “ January 27, 1814, one lamprey was charged 7s.”

*( To be continued. )*

## FORM USED BY BISHOP BARLOW AT THE CONSECRATION OF FULMER CHURCH.

An interesting account of the Consecration of Fulmer Church was given in the last number of the *RECORDS* (page 28), from a contemporary Document presented to the Society by D. P. King, Esq. That account having been read by B. Beedham, Esq., of Kimbolton, (who has lately joined the Society) he very kindly informed the Secretaries that the original Form of Consecration used by Bishop Barlow at Fulmer was still preserved in the Archbishopal Library at Lambeth, and suggested that a copy might be obtained. At this suggestion the Rev. C. Lowndes wrote to F. Ouvry, Esq., who has kindly procured for the Society the following transcript:—

Volume endorsed “Bibliotheca Lambethana.”

(On fly-leaf)

577

A

Collectio plurium Instrumentorum et monumentorum  
maximi pretii, facta vel manu vel curâ RR P. Willelmi  
Sancroft Archiep'i Cant.

Collectore Henrico Wharton G. Arch. Cant'.  
a sacris domest.

(f. 185) The manner of consecrating the Church  
and Churchyard at Foulmire in Com.  
Buckingham, 1<sup>o</sup> Novemb. viz fest. O'ium  
SS<sup>m</sup> 1610

By *William Barlow L<sup>d</sup> B<sup>p</sup> of Lincolne.* (1)

And first of y<sup>e</sup> Churchyard.

CHURCHYARD.—At y<sup>e</sup> entrance into y<sup>e</sup> Churchy<sup>d</sup>, y<sup>e</sup> B<sup>p</sup>  
willed y<sup>e</sup> Assembly to passe with him y<sup>e</sup> whole compas of  
y<sup>e</sup> same, and as they went to sing Psal. 100.

(1) Mr. Golding's MS.—“A Booke of the manner of the consecration  
of a new Church builded at ffulmer at the sole chardge of Sr Marmaduke  
Darell lord of the fame pshe, with seates, fonte, pulpiit, & all other  
comly necessities thereunto belonging. An<sup>o</sup> 1610.

WILLIAM BARLOW } The manner of his Consecratinge the Church,  
Lord Bishopp of Lincolne, } and Curch-yard at Fulmer in the Countie  
of Buck.

Primo die Novembris, vz. : festiuitatis  
Omnium Sanctoru: An<sup>o</sup> D<sup>m</sup>. 1610.

The circuit being finished, y<sup>e</sup> B<sup>p</sup> made a short speech expressing y<sup>e</sup> reason of this & y<sup>e</sup> like inclosure about a church, namely in a double respect.

1. Y<sup>t</sup> it might be *atrium templi*, a churchy<sup>d</sup> as we call it, both for a kinde of state & reverence to y<sup>e</sup> place, as in houses of rich and honourable personages, y<sup>t</sup> y<sup>e</sup> entrance might not be presently from y<sup>e</sup> comon waye into y<sup>e</sup> Temple, but as by a base court, & also y<sup>t</sup> no other building should joyne to it or jutt upon it, for y<sup>t</sup> was it y<sup>t</sup> God hims<sup>l</sup> tooke in ill part, [\*as an abominable pollution] (1) *posuerunt postes suos juxta postes meos &c.* Ezek. 43.

2. As y<sup>t</sup> it might be as in Greek & Latine it is called *cæmeterium*, 1: a dormitory or place for Christians to sleep in, for so y<sup>e</sup> death of those y<sup>t</sup> die in y<sup>e</sup> faith of X<sup>t</sup> is called, both by hims<sup>l</sup> & his Ap<sup>'</sup>les, because they lying in their graves exspect to be raised again at y<sup>e</sup> last day by y<sup>e</sup> voice of y<sup>e</sup> Arch-Angel, as they y<sup>t</sup> lye in their beds are raised in the dawning of y<sup>e</sup> day by y<sup>e</sup> cockes crowing. To w<sup>ch</sup> use not every place is accomodate, but, such as this shalbe, a religious place consecrate to y<sup>t</sup> purpose, y<sup>t</sup> so this doth (2) both put a difference between those y<sup>t</sup> die by y<sup>e</sup> hand of God in the faith of X<sup>t</sup>, and those w<sup>ch</sup> die violently, either by y<sup>e</sup> hand of y<sup>e</sup> executioner in *scandalo mundi*, or by their own hand, in despair of their Saviour, for whose enterring fields & highwaies (3) are worthily appointed. As also those y<sup>t</sup> like neighbors in their lifetime assembled together in one place as members of the same body, might after death lie together in one place, exspecting y<sup>e</sup> same resurrection: for in y<sup>e</sup> burial of the dead there is both respected an humane curtesie & also an office of religious piety.

First, men even in nature & comon reason have abhorred y<sup>t</sup> those bodies w<sup>ch</sup> are *animæ domicilia* tenements of y<sup>t</sup> soul w<sup>c</sup> giveth them reason, whereby man excelleth al other creatures: (for where in strength & sense & other qualities corporal many beasts exceed men, yet God or nature as y<sup>e</sup> Humanists speake, giving

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\* Interlined in the original—in all subsequent cases the brackets are in the original.

(1) Mr. Golding's MS.—“For that was it, w<sup>ch</sup> God himself tooke in ill partie, & accounted it an abominable pollution,” &c.

(2) ib.—“Doth” read “might.”

(3) ib.—“Comon highwaies.”

unto man this one thing, a reasonable soul, (1) by it he surpasseth & conquereth y<sup>m</sup> all) they even abhorred, I say, y<sup>t</sup> these should be left unburied amongst y<sup>e</sup> beasts of y<sup>e</sup> field, & in the scriptures phrase y<sup>t</sup> *sepultura viri* should be as *sepultura asini*.

Secondly y<sup>t</sup> y<sup>e</sup> bodies of Christians w<sup>ch</sup> are the temples of y<sup>e</sup> H : Ghost while they live, might after the separation of y<sup>e</sup> soul from them be entered in those places w<sup>ch</sup> are consecrated by y<sup>e</sup> ministry of y<sup>e</sup> H : Spirit, & lie as near to y<sup>e</sup> place as might be where they were first initiated into y<sup>e</sup> Church & made members of y<sup>e</sup> H : Ghost.

It is true y<sup>t</sup> in ancient time both amongst Pagans & Jewes, yea Christians also in y<sup>e</sup> primitive Church, and in some places at this day, the Sepultures of y<sup>e</sup> dead were & are out of y<sup>e</sup> Citty, for w<sup>e</sup> there might be yeilded double reason, both of co<sup>m</sup>on reason (2) & religious reverence. In y<sup>e</sup> two first their politick respect was y<sup>e</sup> feare of infection, w<sup>e</sup> usually (3) where many dead bodies are buried, out of which places are drawn & oftentimes seen those visions, vapors, & meteors, as *Ignis fatuus* & y<sup>e</sup> like, w<sup>e</sup> are not y<sup>e</sup> most wholesome, & so might prove noysome to y<sup>e</sup> inhabitants there asse. . . . .g.\* (4)

Their religious respect was in them rather superstitious, because they accompted y<sup>e</sup> places of y<sup>e</sup> dead to be pollutions of y<sup>e</sup> living : but among the Christians it was a reverend kinde of respect & awe towards y<sup>e</sup> Saints & martyrs slain (5) & killed w<sup>ch</sup> were buried in those fields, †who after by y<sup>e</sup> Christians in time of liberty from persecution were enclosed into Churchyards & beautified with churches, and upon whose ‡ Tombes (before) they did watch & pray, & celebrate all their rites. Therefore as not thinking themselves worthy to lie so near such worthy men, (6) their custome & desire was to be buried abroad & afarr off. Afterwards the Emperors being great Founders & benefactors to y<sup>e</sup> Christians & Churchmen, as chiefe officers of divine service, obtained y<sup>t</sup> priviledge for themselves only to be buried in y<sup>e</sup> Churches, whereas before some Emperors thought they had a great favour to be

\* "Assembling"? † Thus in original. "which?"

‡ Thus in original. "those?"

(1) Mr. Golding's MS.—Here follows an Extract in Greek of six words—"saide a Poett of their owne," (2) ib.—"Comon Policie."

(3) ib.—"Usually ariseth."

(4) ib.—"Assemblinge."

(5) ib.—"Was a reverend kind of awe towards the Saints, & martirs slaine."

(6) ib.—Read "Holy men."

buried in y<sup>e</sup> porch or under y<sup>e</sup> Church wall near to y<sup>e</sup> Saint whose name y<sup>e</sup> Church did beare; for comonly then y<sup>e</sup> Church had y<sup>e</sup> name of that saint who so (1) was either at y<sup>e</sup> first buried there or afterwards translated thither.

But lastly, lest it might be thought y<sup>t</sup> our Savio<sup>r</sup> X<sup>t</sup> was an acceptor of persons & that only Clerks & great men had y<sup>e</sup> chiefest interest either in his favor or in y<sup>e</sup> general resurrection it indefinitely was left at liberty for any y<sup>t</sup> died a professed Christian to be buried either in the Church or Churchyard.

Thus y<sup>e</sup> B<sup>p</sup> having shortly delivered y<sup>e</sup> reason of such enclosures, prepared himsef to y<sup>e</sup> Act of consecraō. Where first speaking to y<sup>e</sup> Founder, he told him, for ought was yet done, the place whereon they stood & which they had perambulated was stil his own & proper soile to doe with it what hims<sup>l</sup> pleased; He would therefore know what his intent was, & whether it was his minde to have it severed & appointed for y<sup>e</sup> burial of the dead within y<sup>t</sup> parish. To which y<sup>e</sup> Founder answered affirmately, expressing his earnest desire thereof.

The B<sup>p</sup> asked y<sup>e</sup> Incumbent & Churchwardens, if they had y<sup>e</sup> same desire, whereunto they also answered affirmately, humbly & earnestly requesting y<sup>e</sup> same.

The B<sup>p</sup> read y<sup>e</sup> Instrum<sup>t</sup> of Consecraō, wherein also was contained a comandem<sup>t</sup> for y<sup>e</sup> inclosing [of] y<sup>e</sup> old Churchyard, with an Interdiction of y<sup>e</sup> same, from all comon use or prophane abuse.

Then was read by y<sup>e</sup> Minister. Psal 90. & Gen. 23. after w<sup>ch</sup> followed this prayer by y<sup>e</sup> B<sup>p</sup> hims<sup>l</sup>.

O Blessed Jesu our onely Savio<sup>r</sup> & redeemer, who being y<sup>e</sup> resurrection & y<sup>e</sup> life hast of thy mercy promised, & by thy power art able to raise again to life y<sup>e</sup> bodies of y<sup>e</sup> dead y<sup>t</sup> lie in their graves, whether rotted with corruption, or consumed to dust, we humbly beseech thee of thine especial favour to vouchsafe y<sup>t</sup> al those thy servants who shall within this circuit be interred & buried may lead their lives in thy feare, & leaving them in thy faith may rest in peace within their graves until y<sup>e</sup> great day of thy second coming, & may then be raised anew in assured hope to raigne with thee in y<sup>t</sup> everlasting glory, which with thy most precious blood thou hast purchased for them & for all them that love & look for thine appearance. Heare us o Blessed Jesus for thy passions sake. Heare

(1) Mr. Golding's MS.—"That Saint, whose Body was at the first either Buried ther."

us ô Loving Father for thy sonnes sake, to whom with y<sup>e</sup> H : Ghost three equal persons & one eternal God, be rendered all honor, praise &c.

After this there being ready y<sup>e</sup> corps of a young man to be buried, it being the first y<sup>t</sup> was laid in y<sup>e</sup> new Church y<sup>d</sup>, y<sup>e</sup> whole assembly saw that duty performed. This done, the B<sup>p</sup> with all the Assembly went to the New Church.

In the Porch & entrance whereof, y<sup>e</sup> B<sup>p</sup> going in first turned him<sup>s</sup> to y<sup>e</sup> Founder, who being a knight was led into the same between 2 knights & told him y<sup>t</sup> now indeed y<sup>e</sup> Churchyard was excmpted from any challenge of his ; but this house did yet remaine his own to be employed, if so he would, to his private use: therefore he demanded of him, if he would also renounce his right, title, & interest in y<sup>e</sup> same: to w<sup>ch</sup> his answer was affirmative.

Then y<sup>e</sup> B<sup>p</sup> asked him if his desire was to have it dedicated to Almighty God & consecrated onely to his Divine service. Whereunto he answered affirmatively, with evident signes of his earnest desire therein.

Then y<sup>e</sup> B<sup>p</sup> willed \* thus to read this canticle or psal : which he did in this manner following.

One thing have I desired of y<sup>e</sup> L<sup>d</sup> w<sup>ch</sup> I will require, y<sup>t</sup> I may dwel in y<sup>e</sup> house of y<sup>e</sup> L<sup>d</sup> all y<sup>e</sup> daies of my life & behold y<sup>e</sup> fair beauty of y<sup>e</sup> L<sup>d</sup> and to visit his holy Temple.

Therefore would I not suffer mine eyes to sleep nor mine eyelids to slumber, neither y<sup>e</sup> temples of mine head to take much rest. Until I had found out a place for y<sup>e</sup> Temple of y<sup>e</sup> L<sup>d</sup>, an habitation for y<sup>e</sup> mighty God of Jacob.

And who am I, L<sup>d</sup>, y<sup>t</sup> I should be able to offer willingly after this sort. For all things come of thee, and from thine own hand have I given thee this small portion. Now therefore O God I thank thee, and praise thy glorious name.

[Then y<sup>e</sup> B<sup>p</sup> taking him by y<sup>e</sup> hand,  
& going forward, said]

I was glad when they said unto me, we wil goe into the house of y<sup>e</sup> L<sup>d</sup>. . Even now wil we goe into this Tabernacle, & fall low on o<sup>r</sup> knees before his footstool. [There they both kneeled, looking toward y<sup>e</sup> East window of the Chancell]

Arise O Lord into thy resting place ; Thou & y<sup>e</sup> Arke of thy strength./. Peace be within these walls, & y<sup>e</sup> fear of

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\* " Him " in margin.

y<sup>e</sup> great God within this Sanctuary. For y<sup>e</sup> Founders & my brethrens sake, I wil wish thee prosperity. Yea, because thou art a house for y<sup>e</sup> L<sup>d</sup> o<sup>r</sup> God; I wil seek to doe thee good.

Gloria patri &c.

[Then y<sup>e</sup> B<sup>p</sup> prayed as followeth.]

O eternal God we must & doe acknowledge y<sup>t</sup> Thou art of a Majesty incomprehensible, and thy glorious presence not to be confined within y<sup>e</sup> largest compass of material Temples, much less within this small resceptacle made with hands. For heaven is thy seat & y<sup>e</sup> earth thy footstool, & at once thou fillest all y<sup>e</sup> corners of y<sup>e</sup> world. Notwithstanding most gracious Father, sithence it is thy good pleasure not onely y<sup>t</sup> thy servants should assemble together to hear thy wil revealed in thy word, & to make known their wants by their prayers & supplicāos; but also hast promised to vouchsafe thine habitation amongst mortal men especially to dwel in such places as this consecrated to thy service, & severed from al profane employments. We most humbly beseech thee to accept frō us, though dust & ashes, yea miserable sinners, this poor duty of us (1) performed according to o<sup>r</sup> ability in building & dedicating this house fitt to the proportion of y<sup>e</sup> usual assembly; & withal so to bless it & grace it, (2) y<sup>t</sup> thy word may be read and preached therein in truth & with diligence, thy holy sacraments administered with fear & reverence, the prayers of thy servants, uttered with true devotion & hearty repentance, heard of thee with patience & performance of what they desire according to thy will, y<sup>t</sup> so whatsoever is or shal therein be done or spoken, (3) may altogether tend to y<sup>e</sup> glory of Thee & thy B: Son X<sup>i</sup> Jesus, To whom with thee & y<sup>e</sup> H. Ghost &c. Amen.

[This prayer being finished, y<sup>e</sup> B<sup>p</sup> turned him<sup>s</sup> to y<sup>e</sup> Font newly erected & putting his hand into y<sup>e</sup> water & holding it therein, blessed it in these words.]

Allmighty & everlasting God, whose most dearly beloved son J. X<sup>i</sup>. for y<sup>e</sup> forgiveness of our sins did shed out of his most precious side both water & blood, & gave comādem<sup>t</sup>. to his Disciples y<sup>t</sup> they should goe teach all nations baptizing them in y<sup>e</sup> name of y<sup>e</sup> Father & of y<sup>e</sup> Son & of y<sup>e</sup> H. Ghost; and to y<sup>t</sup> purpose did sanctify not only y<sup>e</sup> flood Jordan but all other waters also to the

(1) Mr. Golding's MS.—"Poor duty of ours." (2) ib.—"And grace it," not in this copy. (3) ib.—"is, or shalbe therein, either done, or."

mystical washing away of sins : Regard we beseech thee y<sup>e</sup> Supplicaōs of thy servants, & grant (1) y<sup>e</sup> al thy servants y<sup>e</sup> shalbe baptized in y<sup>e</sup> water of this Font may receive y<sup>e</sup> fulness of thy grace, & ever remaine in y<sup>e</sup> number of thy faithful & elect children, through J. Xt. o<sup>r</sup> Ld. Amen.

[After this prayer ended, y<sup>e</sup> B<sup>p</sup> with y<sup>e</sup> founder went up y<sup>e</sup> middle Isle, & between y<sup>e</sup> Chancel and y<sup>e</sup> body of y<sup>e</sup> Church y<sup>e</sup> B<sup>p</sup> turning his face to y<sup>e</sup> people, read y<sup>e</sup> Instrument of Consecrao, dedicating y<sup>e</sup> Church to God in memory of S: James y<sup>e</sup> Aptle, for so was y<sup>e</sup> name of y<sup>e</sup> old Church w<sup>ch</sup> was demolished.]

Then y<sup>e</sup> Minister began y<sup>e</sup> ordinary morning prayer, & after y<sup>e</sup> psal : O come let us sing, &c. He read for y<sup>e</sup> psalmes of y<sup>e</sup> day ↓ 26. 84. 134. & for y<sup>e</sup> first Lesson. (2) 2 Sam. 6. 2<sup>nd</sup>. Lesson. S. Joh. 10. v. 22, to y<sup>e</sup> end.

And for y<sup>e</sup> Collect of y<sup>e</sup> day, this was used. (3)

We beseech Thee, Almighty God, y<sup>t</sup> Thou wilt be pleased continually to dwell in this house, w<sup>ch</sup> this day we have dedicated to Thee. Vouchsafe to accept y<sup>e</sup> sacrifices of thy servants whether of Almes or prayers or thanksgivings w<sup>ch</sup> shalbe offered therein. Grant also a blessing to thy H. (4) word herein read or preached, y<sup>t</sup> like seed sown in good ground, it may fructify in those y<sup>t</sup> shalbe here assembled, to y<sup>e</sup> instruction of their understanding, the comfort of their consciences, y<sup>e</sup> amendm<sup>t</sup> of their lives, y<sup>e</sup> saving of their souls, & y<sup>e</sup> Glory of thy H : (5) name, through J. Xt. o<sup>r</sup> only Ld & Savio<sup>r</sup>.

The ordinary prayers being ended, D<sup>r</sup> Barlow Archdeacon of Winchester y<sup>e</sup> B<sup>p</sup> chaplen præpared to y<sup>e</sup> Sermon. Before sermon was sung, Psal. 27. & after, ↓ 113. His text was ↓ v. 7. (6)

Sermon ended they went to y<sup>e</sup> Comunion celebrated by y<sup>e</sup> B<sup>p</sup>, where collection being made for y<sup>e</sup> poor, the Founder offered a piece of Gold.

For y<sup>e</sup> Epistle was read Ecclés 4. a v. có, ad v. 7. cap. 5<sup>th</sup>. (7) At y<sup>e</sup> celebraō of y<sup>e</sup> Comunion y<sup>e</sup> B<sup>p</sup> caused y<sup>e</sup> Founder to kneel by himse<sup>l</sup> before y<sup>e</sup> Altar in y<sup>e</sup> middle of y<sup>e</sup> Quire, (8) & a little before the ending of y<sup>e</sup> celebraō this praier was added by y<sup>e</sup> B<sup>p</sup>.

(1) Mr. Golding's MS.—"The Supplications, of thy Congregation, and graunte."

(2) ib.—"And in steade of chapters for the day, were read :"

(3) ib.—"And in the place of the Collect for the day, this following was used : viz :"

(4) ib.—"Thy sacred word."

(5) ib.—"Glory to thy blessed name."

(6) ib.—"His texte was Psal : 5. ver 7."

(7) ib.—"for the Gospell, was read Luc : 7. to the xj<sup>th</sup> verse."

(8) ib.—"In the midst of the Quire."

Most gracious God, after the religious example of those holy prælates in y<sup>e</sup> Primitive Church who in celebrating y<sup>e</sup> Comuniō remembered y<sup>e</sup> Saints departed & their benefactors living, We humbly bescech thee to accept in good part our comēmoration of this worthy gentleman thy servant here present, by whose means & at whose charge, in these demolishing and destroying daies this house was translated, re-edified, enlarged, & dedicated for thy service. Blesse him we pray thee with his whole offspring & family, establish him & his seed upon earth, and when y<sup>t</sup> house of clay, his body, shalbe dissolved, clothe him with imortality & give him an everlasting habitation in y<sup>e</sup> heavens, with Thee & thy son Jesu X<sup>t</sup>, to whom with y<sup>e</sup> H. Ghost, &c.

The Comuniō being ended, the Congregation was dismissed with this Benediction, viz<sup>t</sup>.

The peace of God, w<sup>e</sup> passeth al understanding keep yo<sup>r</sup> hearts & mindes &c.

FINIS.

In the library of Sir Henry Spelman was a manuscript account of this Consecration. It passed into the hands of the late Mr. Dawson Turner of Yarmouth, and, at the sale of his manuscripts in June 1859, was purchased by Charles Golding, Esq., of the Harrow Road, Paddington, who, having been kind enough to collate it with the proof-sheet of the foregoing account, has favoured us with the variations given in the foot notes.

#### MEMORIAL WINDOW TO THE LATE MR. AND MRS. FIELD.

ST MARY'S CHURCH, AYLESBURY.—A small lancet window in the south aisle of this Church having been lately restored by the Venerable Archdeacon Bickersteth, it has been filled with stained glass at the cost of Mr. Field, of this town. The glass is the work of Mr. Oliphant, who also executed the north and south windows in the chancel. The subject is the Apostle St. Peter. Both the figure and the setting are well treated, and the colouring is neat and chaste. On the splay of the window is a monumental brass bearing the following inscription:—"To the glory of God, and to the dear memory of Thomas White Field and Ann his wife. He died March II. MDCCCXXXII. aged LIX. She died June XXIII. MDCCCXXXII. aged LVIII.—Erected by their affectionate Son A.D. MDCCCLVIII."

## HILLESDEN HOUSE IN 1644.

By REV. H. ROUNDELL.

The civil wars of the seventeenth century are full of incidents connected with this County, and the difficulty is not so much to find a subject, as to make a selection from the abundant material. Sketches of the battle of Aylesbury, the attack and defence of Borstal House, the skirmish at Padbury, the burning of Swanbourne, the entrenched camp at Newport Pagnell with its unruly garrison and mess-room intrigues, the foray of the Earl of Cleveland on Fenny Stratford and Brickhill, might be readily exhumed from the forgotten depositories of the Mercuries, Intelligencers, and Chronicles of these wars. Some few of these events have found a place in Lord Clarendon's well-known History, while the affair at Hillesden House, which nevertheless affected to some extent the position of both armies in Buckinghamshire in 1644, is passed over without mention by this writer, owing, it has been stated, to a personal misunderstanding between himself and the Denton family, owners of Hillesden.

In the beginning of the year 1644<sup>2</sup> Charles I. was in garrison at Oxford, and occupied Abingdon, Woodstock, and Banbury, maintaining his line of defence upon the river Cherwell and fortifying Borstal House in Bucks as an advanced post. Opposite to this line, but at the safe distance of twenty miles and upwards, the forces of the Parliament held Newport Pagnell under Sir Samuel Luke with a direct communication with their camp at Aylesbury, thus securing the north road from London into Bedfordshire and the associated Counties. Both armies sent out their forage parties into the intermediate district, and Sir Alexander Denton, a staunch Royalist, conceived the plan of fortifying his house at Hillesden—lying about mid-way between Oxford and Newport—as a *point d'appui* from which the King's troops might act with effect upon the garrisons of Newport and Aylesbury. Having secured the support of the neighbouring town of Buckingham he established communications with Oxford by a chain of pickets of horse and foot stationed at Twy-

ford, Bicester, Chesterton, and Bletchington. Early in February Colonel Smith was sent from Oxford with a small force to Hillesden, where he assumed the chief command, and built additional barns and stables about the house for the accommodation of cavalry, and at the same time employed a large body of labourers to dig a trench half a mile in circumference, enclosing the mansion and the parish Church which adjoined it. The fortifications would probably have been completed without interruption had not a party of troopers under Col. Smith himself made a bold inroad towards Aylesbury, and carried off from the village of Dunton a drove of cattle, with money and other valuables, all of which were brought to Hillesden. But no sooner had they reached home than a furious dispute arose upon the partition of the spoil. The Major, described to be "an uncommon frenzy man," claimed for his troop all the horses taken, in addition to a share in the rest of the plunder; and he put under arrest every one who disputed his claim, a proceeding which soon caused a general mutiny, and the Major was ultimately obliged to release his prisoners, and recede from his claim. Nor did the consequences of the expedition end here. The next day the owner of the cattle—one William Burton, a tenant of Mr. Hampden's—arrived at Hillesden, and was only permitted to recover his stock at a ransom of eighty pounds. Indignant at his losses he complained loudly to the Commanders at Aylesbury and Newport, demanding a compensation of upwards of 160*l.*, and they were thus led to see the danger that threatened them from a strong garrison maintained at Hillesden. Within a week a force of three hundred horse and foot marched from Aylesbury with orders to demolish Hillesden, and bring back its inmates prisoners. They seem to have attempted a surprise, appearing before the house shortly after seven o'clock in the morning; but finding the garrison on the alert, they only exchanged shots with them without loss on either side, and, after staying about an hour before the house, during which time a barn and cottage were burnt down, and another cottage set on fire, his troops returned to Aylesbury.

Upon this failure a fresh plan of attack was instantly set on foot by Sir Samuel Luke. He carefully informed himself, by spies, of the progress of the fortifications at

Hillesden from day to day, and writing to the Committee of Northampton, the Earl of Manchester, and Colonel Aylyffe, collected a considerable body of men, and marched them under the command of Colonels Cromwell and Eldridge to the village of Claydon, distant two miles from Hillesden, where they were encamped on the night of the 3rd of March. A part of the force was posted at Padbury, and a strong detachment was sent to Chesterton, near Bicester, to intercept any retreat which the garrison might attempt to make during the night. The spot on the ridge of the hill at Claydon on which the main body of the troops rested, is marked by a barn, still standing, on the wall of which is a brass plate with this inscription—

The Camp Barn  
Around this spot  
The Army of the Parliament  
under the command of Cromwell  
was encamped March 1644  
and on the 3d of that month  
advanced from hence  
to the attack on  
Hillesdon House.

During the preceding fortnight the Royalists at Hillesden had not been idle. They had summoned the country people to come in and keep garrison under a penalty of 30s. each. They had manufactured a wooden cannon from a stout piece of elm, strongly bound together with iron. They obtained from Oxford five small pieces of ordnance with match and ammunition, which they placed in the Church. They employed nearly a thousand men to cast up a mound of earth in the centre of the works, on which this artillery was to be planted, and to hasten on the completion of the trenches. In another month Hillesden would have been impregnable to any sudden attack. So well however, had Sir Samuel Luke executed his plans that the first intelligence of his approach only reached the garrison at six o'clock in the evening of the 3rd, and before nine the next morning the Parliamentary army had surrounded Hillesden, and was so posted as to cut off all chance of retreat from the besieged. Colonel Smith was invited to send out a flag of truce with proposals for a capitulation, but his messenger finding that he could obtain no terms short of an unconditional surrender as prisoners of war, soon returned, and Colonel Smith

disposed his men to defend the works, encouraging them to fight to the last. But his numbers were insufficient to hold the extended line of entrenchment, the ditch being in some places not more than knee deep, against the overwhelming strength of the assailants, and on the first attack the enemy obtained a footing, and poured forward in such numbers, that the defenders were forced to retire, some within the Church, and others to the house. A second assault was instantly made and the Church speedily taken, when Colonel Smith seeing the hopelessness of any further defence, and moved by the entreaties of his men, surrendered upon promise of quarter—all the prisoners, and among them Sir Alexander and his brother, were marched on foot to Padbury, where they passed the night in great discomfort. The next day they were taken to Newport Pagnell, and remained there till ransomed or exchanged.

From the conflicting statements of this affair, published by the two parties, it is difficult to arrive at the real number and treatment of the prisoners. All accounts agree that some of the prisoners were put to death after the surrender. The Parliamentary Reporter in *Mercurius Civicus* of March 7th, 1644, while commending the clemency of the General in command, admits a massacre of thirty men, and claims the capture of great stores of arms, ammunition, and cattle, together with 450 prisoners; on the other hand, *Mercurius Aulicus*, the King's Journal, details a scene of great barbarity as following upon the surrender, in which Sir S. Luke is represented, but probably with injustice, as taking a prominent part, and this account states the number of soldiers taken at 100 only. But the truth may be ascertained from the official Report of the Governor of Newport, which shows that the garrison consisted of 263 men, viz.—“ Sir Alexander Denton and his brother, Col. Smith, Lieut.-Col. Hertley, Major Auinion, 5 Captains, 3 Lieutenants, 3 Cornets, 8 Quarter-Masters, 4 Ensignes, 7 Serjants, 5 Drummers, 173 Souldiers, 4 Corporalls of horse, 4 Corporalls of foote, 1 Trumpeter, 1 Precist, and 40 killed in the least.”\*

The next morning after the surrender, one of the soldiers striking with his musket against the wainscoting of one of the rooms, discovered a considerable sum of money, and upon further search more treasure was found

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\* Egerton MSS. in Brit. Mus. No. 785. folio 7. b.

concealed in other parts of the house, and chiefly underneath the leads of the roof. Later in the day news came of the advance of a large body of the King's troops from Oxford towards Hillesden, and created a great panic among the men. Either a fear of attack, or some other military consideration, determined the officers in command to evacuate Hillesden, and the same afternoon, Tuesday, 5th of March, they withdrew their troops, Sir S. Luke to Newport, Col. Cromwell to Buckingham, having previously set on fire the house, which was reduced to ruins.

The dispatch-book of Sir S. Luke, already referred to, contains copies of the correspondence of several of the prisoners at Newport, and a letter of Sir Alexander Denton to his steward is worth extracting, as shewing the necessities to which he was reduced, and the temper of mind in which he met his misfortunes:—

*" Blagrove I woulde have you send mee by Tyler That bag of silver w<sup>h</sup> Bersey left w<sup>h</sup> you long since & Seale it upp & let him bring it to mee upon Saturday next to Newport Lucas will come along w<sup>h</sup> him. Bid him also take a viewe of y<sup>e</sup> house y<sup>t</sup> was burned upon Tuesday & I may have some certayne informacion of w<sup>t</sup> destruction is fallen upon mee or whether it bee possible to rebuild those walls that are standing if y<sup>e</sup> distractions of y<sup>e</sup> times should settle I thanke God I am yet in health notw<sup>th</sup>standing these many misfortunes are fallen upon mee & my comfort is I knowe myselfe not guilty of any fault.*

*" ALEX. DENTON.*

*" Newport, 6 March 1643."*

These wars brought heavy misfortunes on Sir Alexander. Just before their commencement he had lost his wife and mother both in the same month, and he had the pain of seeing his nearest relatives espouse opposite sides in the sanguinary struggle: his brother-in-law, the gallant Sir Edmund Verney, had fallen at Edge Hill; his own house was thus plundered and destroyed, and himself a prisoner. In August following, his eldest son John was killed in battle near Abingdon, having received no less than thirty wounds. Overpowered by these accumulated troubles, his own health gave way, and he was buried at Hillesden, 5th January 164½, in the 48th year of his age. Hillesden House was afterwards rebuilt on its original site, and became well known throughout the County as

the hospitable mansion of Mr. Justice Denton, a cotemporary and friend of Browne Willis, but on the extinction of the male line of the Dentons, it passed by female inheritance to Mr. Coke of Norfolk, afterwards Earl of Leicester, and being subsequently sold to another owner, the house was pulled down and the materials removed; but the foundations and garden terraces may still be traced; and in a field to the south-west of the Church a portion of the line of fortification is yet discernible.

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### PROCEEDINGS OF THE SOCIETY.

FEBRUARY 7TH, 1859.—A Committee Meeting was this day held in the Society's Room, in Silver-street, when the Secretary reported that, in compliance with the resolution of the last Meeting, he had sent a Circular Letter and List of the Queries, approved by the Committee, to the Messrs. Whellan, together with 200 copies of the List of Members and Rules of the Society. The Secretary also reported the purchase of "*Rotuli Parliamentorum*," which are now placed in the Library for the use of Members. Resolutions were passed, that the Accounts of the Society be audited annually instead of every two years as heretofore; and that a copy of the "*Records*" be sent to Lord Carington, as Lord-lieutenant of the County, with the request that his Lordship will give his support to the Society. Mr. Field presented several Coins and Tokens to the Society. B. Beedham, Esq., Kimbolton, Huntingdon, and H. Bode, Esq., Dinton, were proposed and seconded as joining Members.

It was resolved to hold a General Meeting in Aylesbury, on Monday, May 2nd; and the Annual Meeting was proposed to be held this year at Newport Pagnell.

MAY 16TH, 1859.—A General Meeting was held in the Evening of this day, in the Large Room of the White Hart Hotel, Aylesbury. Amongst other objects of interest the following were exhibited:—Some Rubbings from Shakspeare's tomb at Trinity Church, Stratford-upon-Avon, to compare with a Rubbing taken from a Monumental Slab from the neighbourhood of Dinton, by Vice-Admiral Smyth; a Mediæval Key found at Creslow, in the Warren, in November, 1858, sent by R. Rowland, Esq.; a Fransisca, or the Iron Head of a very small Axe, used by the Franks as a casting weapon, found by Mr. Fordom, jun., on his farm at Little Kimble, in December, 1858, and presented by him to the Society; the Barbed Head of a Spear, also found by Mr. Fordom, jun., at the same place and in the same month as the last-named "*find*," and presented to the Society; the Head of a Spear, found on Benhill, near Aylesbury, in November, 1858, together with Human and Stag Bones, &c., presented by Mr. E. Terry, jun.; also a Lady's Shoe, some 200 years old, found embedded in the wainscoting of an old house, the property of Mr. R. Gibbs, and presented to the Society as an object of curiosity.

The Rev. G. A. Cuxson presided. The Rev. C. Lowndes read a Financial Account, in the absence, from indisposition, of Mr. R. Dell, the Treasurer, showing that, after the various expenses of the Society for 1858 had been paid, there remained a balance of £25 15s. 1½d. to meet the current year's expenses. The next business was that of proposing sixteen new Candidates, who had already passed the Committee, for Membership. Their names, which were as follows, were put and carried *nem. con* :— Acton Tindal, Esq., Aylesbury; R. Sutton, Esq., 44, Queen Ann Street, London; R. M'Cormick, Esq., Aylesbury; B. Beedham, Esq., Kimbolton, Hunts; H. Bode, Esq., Dinton; Herbert Cooper, Esq., Aylesbury; Archibald Garrioch, Esq., Aylesbury; W. Meyrick, Esq., Parliament-street, London; the Rev. H. Ferrier, Chalfont St. Peters; the Rev. G. R. Ferris, Hulcott; the Rev. J. M. Price, Cuddington; Mr. E. Terry, jun., Aylesbury; Mr. E. Eames, Aylesbury; Mr. J. Griffiths, Aylesbury; Mr. J. S. Stone, Terrick; and Mr. J. Williams, Aylesbury. The Secretary then mentioned the following presentations to the Society :— "Catalogue of Egyptian Antiquities in the Museum of Hartwell House," by J. Lee, Esq.; "Some particulars relative to Colonel Richard Beke, of Haddenham," by J. Lee, Esq.; "Britannia Romana," by Vice-Admiral Smyth; "Second Report of Researches in a Cemetery, of the Anglo-Saxon period, at Brighthampton, Oxon," by J. Y. Akerman, Esq.; "Furca et Fossa," by J. Y. Akerman, Esq.; also eleven Coins of the "find" in Weston Underwood, presented by Sir Robert Throckmorton, together with a great many pieces of Roman Pottery, but not sufficient to discover the kind of vessel of which they originally formed a part. The Secretary next reported that he had received the 2nd volume of the "Transactions of the London and Middlesex Archaeological Society," with a note from its Secretary saying that that Society would be glad to act in unison with the Bucks Society. The matter was then put to the Meeting, and it was decided that the thanks of the Bucks Society be given to the London and Middlesex Society for its present, and that the Society should be informed of the willingness of the Bucks Society to act in unison with it. The Chairman then stated that a note had been received from Vice-Admiral Smyth requesting the Secretary to read his Paper to the Meeting in his unavoidable absence. The Rev. C. Lowndes then read the Paper in question, which was "Notice of certain Relics found at Benhill Farm, near Aylesbury," with further "Remarks on Rubbings." The presentation from Mr. May, photographer, of five Stereoscopic Views of the interior of the Museum, at Hartwell House, was then duly acknowledged, and the views, which were very correct, and executed with considerable artistic skill, were passed round the room. Mr. Lowndes, at the request of Mr. Stone, of Terrick, read a Paper, "Notes on an ancient foundation discovered in the Parish of Ellesborough." This was followed by the reading of an interesting Paper, by Mr. Lowndes, from the Rev. H. Roundell, vicar of Buckingham, "On Hillesden House in the Civil Wars." Thanks were then voted to the Writers of the respective Papers, the Secretary and Chairman, after which the Meeting dissolved.

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# ARCHÆOLOGICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL SOCIETY

FOR THE COUNTY OF BUCKINGHAM.

## ABSTRACT OF ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31st, 1858.

### Receipts.

|                                          | £  | s. | d. |
|------------------------------------------|----|----|----|
| Balance in the Treasurer's hands         | 22 | 9  | 5½ |
| Subscriptions for the Year 1858          | 14 | 10 | 0  |
| Arrears of Subscriptions, and in advance | 15 | 14 | 6  |
| By Sale of "Records"                     | 1  | 10 | 0  |

£54 3 11½

### Payments.

|                                                            | £  | s. | d. |
|------------------------------------------------------------|----|----|----|
| Pickburn's Account for Printing                            | 13 | 13 | 4  |
| Nichols and Son, for 400 Prints of Quarrendon Chapel       | 1  | 1  | 3  |
| Day and Son, for Lithographing a View of Quarrendon Chapel | 2  | 15 | 0  |
| Door Plate                                                 | 1  | 6  | 0  |
| Akerman's Roman Coins, 2 vols., and 2 Parliamentary Tracts | 1  | 16 | 0  |
| Postage Stamps and Parcels                                 | 4  | 4  | 5  |
| Advertisements                                             | 1  | 16 | 6  |
| Envelopes                                                  | 0  | 4  | 7  |
| Expenses of the General Meeting                            | 1  | 11 | 9  |
| Balance in hand December 31st, 1858                        | 25 | 15 | 1½ |

£54 3 11½

Examined, Audited, and compared with the Vouchers.

Z. D. HUNT, }  
CHARLES LLOYD, } Auditors.

NOTICE OF CERTAIN RELICS FOUND NEAR AYLESBURY ;  
WITH FURTHER REMARKS ON "RUBBINGS." IN A  
LETTER FROM VICE-ADMIRAL SMYTH.

*St. John's Lodge, 12—5—'59.*

MY DEAR SIR,

From your having drawn my attention to the vestigia discovered in this neighbourhood during the autumn of last year, I repaired to the site, which is on a farm tenanted by Mr. Edward Terry. By this, and an examination of the relics, I am able to state the following particulars; and however scant they may be, I hope they will be found accurate, since they may therefore form a link in the chain of evidence which research has procured, or may yet procure, respecting the ancient occupation of this vicinity. Besides correcting archaic chorography, such incidents also generally afford a partial insight into the state and condition of those who preceded us, by yielding unequivocal traces of their forts and dwellings, the money circulated among them, the utensils and implements which they used, the weapons they brandished, the remains of the very animals they subsisted upon, and finally their modes of sepulture. It is therefore imperative that every vestige brought to light by design or accident, should be duly substantiated and recorded, so that the *dissecta membra* may hereafter be embodied in a comprehensive whole.

Here I cannot but own to being somewhat perplexed that Aylesbury bears so slight a mention in our historic registers, seeing that according to the old Saxon Chronicle it was one of the strongest holds of the Britons: and it evidently must have been of capital importance, from its dominant position over the Vale to which its name is imparted. Yet we are encompassed with unmistakable evidences of successive occupation by Britons, Romans, Anglo-Saxons, and Danes; the two last of which peoples are well known to have had most ferocious and sanguinary encounters at Halton, Bledlow (Bloody-ridge), and other hard-fought battle-fields, wherein indiscriminate massacre or hopeless slavery awaited the vanquished. Even of late

years, extensive 'finds' of coins, pottery, arms, fibulæ, armillæ, beads, tesserae, and mattoni, have occurred all around; as for instance at Prince's Risborough, Ellesborough, Weston Turville, Mentmore, Crendon, Little Kimble, Stone, and that severely-contested Saxon station Dinton, where tradition points to the *sambucus humilis*, or Daneswort, as a proof that the soil which nourished it had been drenched and saturated with blood of the Danes. This spot appears to offer promise to the excavator, but there is little to be marked above-ground; in the Vale, the boundaries for the greater part may have been formed of hedge-rows and ditches, which as my late friend Hallam remarked, are among our oldest antiquities: hence the little that offers to eye-search, the very ruins of the stations having disappeared—*ipse periere ruinæ*. But among the adjacent Chiltern Hills there are mounds, barrows, entrenched camps, and fastnesses of various kinds among its once impassible forests, which sufficiently prove the early consequence of that fine mountainous range; of these perhaps the most interesting is Belinus, or Kimble Castle, the reputed residence of the British King Cunobeline—Shakspeare's *Cymbeline*. This post is finely situated on a strong circular eminence above Velvet Lawn, and I can find no reason for doubting its traditional story. Indubitable certainty may yet reward inquiry; but I cannot suppress my own chagrin on being told in Ellesborough that a man had recently found a beautiful coin in this castle, when, dreaming of the gold galloping horse and wheel of Cunobeline, I found that it proved—after being unwrapped from its swathings—to be a trumpery brass Nuremburg Token! To return—

Last autumn, in draining a field called Benhill, situate in the hamlet of Walton, between the two roads to Tring and Wendover, and just beyond the new Cemetery, the workmen dug up a quantity of human and other bones, together with a corroded spear-head, and the neck of a terracotta vessel which has been painted black, and apparently of the form of one represented in Artis's "*Durobrivæ, Illustrated*" (plate xlvii, fig. 1), which was found at the Roman pottery-kiln, Normangate-field, Castor, in 1826: and I was also shown the fragment of what seemed to have been the handle of a coarse amphora, or perhaps of one of the mortuary urns called ossuaria. These remains were

found at about three feet deep, in a dark soil bearing an appearance as of burning having been practised,—a circumstance of no great weight in itself, since cremation and inhumation were coteremporaneously in use among the Pagan Anglo-Saxons; although there was a difference in the sepultures of the Romans quartered in Britain, and the Romanized population of the island. Such was the 'find'; but the space was not disturbed beyond the furrows necessary for drainage, so that the extent of eligible excavatable ground is still unknown. Indeed after wandering over the whole site, I am not prepared to recommend any particular spot whereon to commence with the pick and the spade, except to continue the diggings as before, when the present crop of beans is off the surface.

In examining the 'find' in detail, the human bones and teeth were found to be in very fair condition, and indeed some of them perfectly sound: and there were parts of the antlers of two stags, an entire stag's head, some boar's tusks, and other intermingled bones,—most of which were collected and submitted to my inspection by Mr. Field, of Aylesbury. No coins, medals, implements, tesserae, or foundations were discovered in the very limited extent which was opened; but the spear-head above-mentioned offers a clue upon which we may reason pretty positively. Being nearly flat, and no less than eighteen inches in length, it must be considered Danish; that people using spear-blades even longer, insomuch that they were more like swords on shafts than the usual spears. As it is unlike the pilum of the Lower-Empire Romans, the angon of the Franks, the spiculum of the Anglo-Saxons, or the javelin of the Teutonick races in general, it may be accepted as an evidence of a fallen Dane; and it is therefore indicative of a fact and a period.

The name Ben-hill is no doubt derived from the long eminence which commands the valley between it and the Chilterns; *Ben* having been widely applied to elevated ground. The situation as a post is excellent, looking over the town of Aylesbury to the N.W., and the village of Weston Turville—where many Roman relics have been found—to the S.E.; and it commands a view of the country immediately surrounding it. Not far below, in the Friarage fields, Roman coins have been repeatedly found; some of which, picked up only last year, were brought here for

my inspection. These pieces, however, afford a very slight testimony as to the former occupants, for Roman money having been the currency of the country for upwards of 400 years, it may equally as well have been hidden or lost by the Britons or Saxons, as by the Romans. Herein the ceramic art lends a powerful aid in determining the time and degree of civilization of a people whose history is lost; for fragile pottery has proved even more durable than brass, thus countenancing Sir Thomas Browne's fine assertion that "Time conferreth a dignity upon everything that resisteth his power." It is to the plastic vases of the Etruscans and Greeks that chronology, art, and history are so deeply indebted; and the specimens found about here—although inferior—cannot but be very useful to inquiry. From what has already been exhumed, it is clear that the use of pottery continued among the Romanized Britons and Anglo-Saxons after the departure of the Romans: but instead of the usual red lustrous wares of the latter, the domestic utensils of the former are rather inelegant, exhibiting no great marks of much preparation before use; and they are generally made of coarse clays impressed more or less with zig-zag lines. Still occasionally the better fictile productions of the Romans are turned up in the neighbourhood, as, for instance, among the relics exhumed at Weston Turville in 1855, two pateræ and a caliculus were found of the red so-called Samian ware; but both the glaze and paste, or body of the material, render it doubtful whether they were fabricated in England.

Except that in cases like the present, wherein every incident ought to be brought forward, I should hardly have mentioned that, among the bones found at Benhill, were several specimens of the little fossil nautilus, of the Foraminifera kind approaching to the nummulite. Of these Mr. Field has preserved a good specimen.

On the whole the 'find' offers as yet very little to reason upon; but still from this accidental discovery a probable conclusion may be arrived at, namely, that the hill was once the site of an encampment, very likely Anglo-Saxon; that outside this camp an engagement with the Danes had taken place, after which the slain men and horses were buried in the trenches where they fell; and that the bones of the deer, boars, and other ruminant

creatures, indicate the pagan sacrificial death-meals—in which even horse-flesh bore a part. Hence the quantity of edible animals' relics found at all the cemeterial openings in every part of Pagan Saxondom, at which so many antiquists have gazed and marvelled. On this point my late regretted friend, Mitchell Kemble, speaking of the identity of the Anglo-Saxon obsequies with those of the Saxons who remained at their old seats on the Elbe, somewhat indignantly remarks—"There has been a good deal of nonsense talked in England about sacrifices and the like. Once for all, let it be known that the sacrificial flesh of the Germans was boiled, not roasted, and was eaten on the spot by those who partook of the sacrifice; which, at stated seasons, the chiefs and kings, if not the whole people, were expected to do. When Hakonr the Good was in bad odour with the Northmen, on suspicion of Christianity, he was made to pass the *broth of boiled horse-flesh* under his nostrils, and the people consented to take this as evidence that he had communicated according to the heathen rite."

The position of these grounds, in a military point of view, may have been of great moment in the intercommunication of a former day; for the great road called the Ichnield Way—the Icenhelde Stræt of our early Chronicles, and the Acknal Way of the locality—ran between the Chiltern Hills on the south, and the Benhill eminences on the north. Nor was it only in far by-gone times that the site was thought eligible for contention, though the notices as yet hunted up are very scant.

In examining the fields about Walton, I am inclined to view the locality as the spot where Prince Rupert was stricken by Sir William Balfore, as reported in a rare quarto pamphlet printed by the Parliament in 1642, under the title of "Good and Joyfull Newes out of Buckinghamshire." It opens with a rather unexpected sneer at the prevalent appetite for news being supplied without much regard to fact—"every man speaking according to his fancie and wishes, and divers sons of audacity and impudence, confidently committing many illegitimate conceptions of their owne to the publike view, which have no more affinity with truth, than the opinions of Copernicus of the motion of the earth."

So much for the Benhill Field! We now turn to staid

common-place facts, and among them I request for a word more in regard to the importance of 'Rubbings.'

In my former letter to you, while jotting down the Dinton Inscription, it struck me that its orthography, cutting, characters, diphthongs, and points, were so like to those of the doggrel lines upon the great Shakspeare's tomb in Stratford Church, that the artists of the two must have *flourished* contemporaneously—and even a suspicion arose whether the two productions might not have been by the same hand? On referring to Chalmers's edition of Shakspeare in 8 vols. 1826, I find it thus—in a form calculated to deceive, because the irregularities in the size and form of the letters induce an implicit belief that they must have been very scrupulously traced—

Good Friend for Iesus SAKE forbear

To digg T-E Dust EncloAsed HERe

Blese be T-E Man  $\frac{T}{\frac{1}{2}}$  spares T-Es Stones

And curst be He  $\frac{T}{\frac{1}{2}}$  moves my Bones.

and this is exactly copied by others, even down to the recent edition of Charles Knight: while, as an example of the inefficiency of eye-copying in these instances, the Rev. Alexander Dyce, so lately as 1857, not perceiving the ligature mark of coalition of letters which a rubbing would have made manifest, also prints *blese* for *blest*.

It is probable, that Chalmers borrowed the inscribed lines from Malone's well-known publication in twenty-one volumes, wherein they appear as above, with this remark:—"On his grave-stone underneath is the following inscription, expressed, as Mr. Steevens observes, in an uncouth mixture of small and capital letters." Here we have a curious proof that Steevens—the malignant Puck of Shakspearian Commentators—could not have seen the monument which he so dogmatically described.

Not being, however, in the habit of giving in against my conviction, and feeling quite sure that there was no such unmeaning confusion of great and little characters on the actual slab, I wrote a few weeks ago to my excellent friend Edward Fordham Flower, Esq.—of the Hill, Stratford-upon-Avon—requesting him to procure me a rubbing from the original; and he kindly furnished me

with the one I now forward, through you, for the Society's acceptance. Though the printer's types will necessarily differ from the *Artist's* cut-letters, the following is a pretty fair reduction of the true inscription:—

GOOD FRENDE FOR IESVS SAKE FORBEARE,  
 TO DIGG THE DVST ENCLOSED HEARE:  
 BLESE BE  $\bar{Y}$  MAN  $\bar{Y}$  SPARES TIES STONES,  
 AND CVRST BE HE  $\bar{Y}$  MOVES MY BONES.

Poor Shakspeare: what had he done to deserve having this senseless request and imprecation, served up in such sorry verse, fathered upon him!

To what I have already advanced respecting the necessity of accuracy in inscriptions of every kind, I may close this communication with an illustrative incident in proof. My remarks in the last number of the RECORDS OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE having been read by the Astronomer Royal, George Biddell Airy, Esq., that gentleman informed me of the recent wanton destruction of a Church-monument at Playford, near Ipswich, which was of such local interest as to have been figured by Gough, in his "Sepulchral Monuments of Great Britain." This letter was dated from the Royal Observatory at Greenwich, December 30th, 1858; and by the next morning's post, I received another missive from him to this effect:—

I omitted at the proper time to mention the following instance of the great value of a *rubbing* for an inscription, as preferable to any copy by the eye.

A few years ago, when I decided on restoring Halley's Tomb, I first had the inscription carefully copied by eye, and the date thus given for Halley's death was—

MDCCXLI

Some qualms of conscience came over me, and for perfect restoration of the inscription, faults and all, I had a very good rubbing made. The date of death now came out—

MDCCXLI ..

The two dots at the end would not have caught any lady's eye. But what could they mean? My good angel suggested that possibly the event occurred while custom was yet uncertain as to beginning the year

in January or in March, and that possibly Halley died either in January or in February : and that the Sculptor intended to cut

MDCCXLI 11

or as we should say in figures

1741-2.

And so it was. Halley died in January or February (I forget which), 1742, by present reckoning. And but for this care, I should in the restoration have cheated Halley of a year of life.

Hoping this animated correction may act as a caution to those who are inclined to run and read, I am,

My dear Sir,

Your's faithfully,

W. H. SMYTH.

*The Rev. Charles Loundes, F. R. A. S.,  
Hon. Sec., &c.*

#### SUPPRESSION OF A LAY-PREACHER.—1703.

A Form of acknowledgment to be performed by William Earbury, Schoolmaster of Bovington in the Archdeaconry of Huntingdon, to be made in the Parish Church of Hemel Hemstead at the Visitation of the Rev. the Archdeacon of Huntingdon, to be held at Hemel Hemstead aforesaid, on Wednesday, 21 April, Anno Domini 1703:—

Whereas, I, William Earbury, being a meer Lay man in communion of the Church of England, did presume to teach or preach before a public Congregation in ye chapele of St. Leonard belonging to the Mother Ch. of Aston Clinton in the County of Bucks, contrary to the Canons of the Church and the Lawes of this Realm to the great offence and scandal of the Regular Clergy and all true Members of the Church of England, I doe therefore make this hearty acknowledgment of my said offence before my Ordinary, the Rev. the Archdeacon of Huntingdon and the Rev. his Official, and in the presence of the Clergy here assembled. Then I do hereby solemnly beg God and them to forgive me, and do further sincerely promise never to offend in like kind again, but to behave myself regularly and conformably as becomes a true member of the Church of England as by Law established. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand this one and twentieth day of April, Anno Domini 1703.

Mem: This Form was audibly read and openly subscribed by the said Offender before the Court to the great satisfaction of ye Clergy and People.—[Lansdowne MSS. in Brit. Mus. No. 939. fol. 97. b. Bp. Kennett's Collection.]—*Communicated by Rev. H. Roundell.*

REMARKS UPON THE FORMER ABUNDANCE, AND  
THE PRESENT NON-EXISTENCE OF SALMON  
IN THE RIVER THAMES.

BY GEORGE VENABLES, *Incumbent of Christ Church,  
Friezeland, Manchester.*

(Continued from page 84, Vol. II.)

The son of the writer of these Memoranda informs me that he has often heard his father say, that he remembers seeing one Hobbs (a noted fisherman) take twenty salmon in a net, at one haul, in Chelsea Reach; and he also informs me that 800*l.* a year were paid to one net-maker alone, in Fenchurch-street, for salmon nets for the River Thames.

Salmon hatches existed in the neighbourhood up to 1780.

It is possible that other Journals might be found which fishermen have kept at other fisheries on the Thames, and if so, a comparison of notes would be useful. It is probable that a gradual diminution in the quantity of salmon may have taken place from the time when Queen Anne made laws about them; but I think we may fairly assume that salmon began to diminish sensibly both in number and in size in the Thames from about the middle of the last century.

“Our figures would have run much higher, both in respect to numbers of fish and weight,” says our faithful chronicler.

It remains to enquire—what is the cause of this? Such is the usual and seemingly very proper question—and yet I think we shall fall into an error unless we amend it, and ask rather, what are the probable *causes* of this? For I am persuaded that no *one* cause will account for it, and I am inclined to believe that many of the causes might, if the matter were taken up with energy and prudence, be removed.

But before “coming to closer quarters” upon this subject, I may be allowed to diverge to the question of trout fishing, since a slight examination upon this subject may do much to facilitate our general enquiry. It is argued

by some persons that the cessation of salmon in the Thames arises from local causes *entirely*, and amongst other causes, from the chemicals used in factories upon the river. That this is not altogether correct is certain from the well-known circumstance that more fish are found around the mills than in any other spots in the river; and, if chemicals were the cause of the destruction of salmon, it seems curious that all the other fish are not killed also.

Trout are not so abundant in the Thames as they once were, yet they cannot be called a scarce fish. I have evidence of some large trout being in a fine condition within a quarter of a mile of the noted "Boulter's Lock," but a few weeks ago.

Nevertheless, chemicals do exercise a very pernicious influence in the rivers upon fish, and doubtless might do so in the Thames, unless care were taken to prevent this, which can be easily done. Instances have occurred on the Thames itself, in which fish have been killed by an accidental introduction of chemicals into the waters; but I contend this cannot be the cause of the destruction of salmon, since every kind of fish, *and trout in particular*, frequent the tails of the mill streams as much as ever.

The Wycombe stream, indeed, affords a lamentable proof of what can be done by indifference, in reference to this matter. Mr. Hofland, in his charming little work on fishing, tells some pleasing tales about the Wycombe stream, and speaks of catching twenty brace of trout in four hours—a feat which I have no doubt was performed, and with less difficulty than there would be now in catching as many in four years. Indeed, if my information be correct, there is not a trout left in the stream. I saw a small one, five years ago, but have heard of none since then; and yet it is not twenty-five years since a gentleman upon granting a lease of his mills on the Wycombe stream, stipulated that a certain number of trout should be sent him annually from the part of the river which belonged to him, but this became impossible before seven years were over—and although I have repeatedly seen eight to ten good trout caught in one mill tail, none under 2lbs. in weight, and some over 6lbs., this is now impossible, owing almost entirely to the chemicals used in the mills, and which are emptied, without any attempt to render them innoxious, into the little river. Poachers too,

regardless of the future, would occasionally use a few pounds of *bleach* (chloride of lime), and putting this into the water to render the trout incapable of escape, destroyed all sizes together.

It is singular (if the assertion be true, as I believe it to be) that though chemicals are not used towards the top of the stream, there are very few, if any, trout *even there*.

Trout are, as to their habits, *salmon on a small scale*; and, after spawning, migrate downwards for a time. This, at least, is my impression. Thus then, all the little trout streams which run into the Thames would furnish it with an importation of trout annually, many of which would return presently to their native stream, while others might remain and become at length almost too large to return to the home of their birth in the narrow streamlet.

But if this be so, it is easy to see how the Wycombe stream should have no trout, or at least very few even at its beginning, because having gone downwards towards the Thames, they could not return, being met on their way by the overpowering bleach, and thus destroyed.

And thus too, the Thames would in the loss of its tribute, reduce the number of its trout, though it would not become entirely destitute, since many breed in the Thames.

If *every* gentleman working mills upon the little "Wyk" would determine so to arrange the use of his chemicals as to hinder their being poured wholesale and undiluted into the waters, I believe that presently, at least "*ten* brace might be taken in four hours" again.

What I have said here shows how thoroughly destructive chemicals are to fish; but I contend that at present this has not operated to any important extent *in the Thames*; and I adduce as a proof the number of large and small fish, and of trout in particular, which may be seen around the mills on the Thames; possibly more care has been taken there than elsewhere; but the great quantity of water rushing through the mills would speedily dilute any but a very strong dose of chemicals. Great care certainly ought to be taken in this particular, but I feel confident that no local cause has driven the salmon from the Thames—indeed they were gone *before chemicals were used*—and I again repeat, the presence of large trout now shows that the *chief cause cannot be local*. Assuming this to be correct, it remains to enquire what difference exists

betwixt the trout and the salmon, which may suggest the solution to our enquiry. The trout may migrate after spawning, a few miles down stream, and perhaps (probably) into a larger river. The salmon migrate down to the sea to return in due season.

What changes then have arisen in the course of travel which the salmon must pursue in its way down the Thames to "breathe" the saline draughts of the Nore? Assuming that salmon began to diminish since 1750, what changes may be suggested as unitedly ending in its banishment from the Thames?

There are no places of sufficient size upon the banks of the Thames to injure it *very much* by sewage until it reaches London: but having swept along its graceful way, clear and sparkling—a fitter river for the King of Fish than any other in Great Britain—it is received at the grandest city in the world—by constant salutes of filth and sewage—of immense value if men would learn cleanliness and economy from God's book, which shows that the one and the other go really together, and which shows too that filthiness is abhorrent in His sight. (Deut. xxiii. 12, 14.) These constant streams of filth flowing into the river, and thrown back continually by the tide, reduce the Thames from a fine salmon river into a mass of moving mud, tossed about and prevented from ever depositing itself by the constant agitation of steam-boats.

This is, I am persuaded, the chief of all the causes which reduced our friend's diary from 1124 lbs. of salmon in 1801 to *nil* in 1820! And, being a *slowly increasing evil*, scarcely felt until the population became larger than it was a century since, it may be assumed to have begun to operate *somewhere about* 1750, and to have gradually reduced the number as well as the quality of the salmon, until they ceased altogether.

A great authority (Lardner's Naturalists' Library), speaking of the salmon in America, states that they have ceased in most of the American rivers owing to the steam-boats—if this be correct, no hope remains of restoring them in the Thames; but I can scarcely think that the action of steam-boats alone could prove destructive. I should rather suspect that it will be found upon close examination that the American towns, even if they do not

pour streams of filth, such as we see in London, into their rivers, do yet permit deleterious and poisonous mixtures to find vent in their rivers, such as will destroy any fish in the neighbourhood.

The mere action of steam-boats upon large rivers could not, I submit, be destructive, if it were not for the accumulation of filth which they are constantly stirring up.

The question of the effect of steam-boats ought however to be well investigated—but we may remark here that the salmon had ceased in the Thames before steamers plied much upon it. I am persuaded that if the subject be thoroughly enquired into, it will be found that during the last century a large number of circumstances have arisen on the banks of the Thames, every one of which has exercised a pernicious influence against the existence of salmon, and indeed of any other fish. Perhaps the Locks may be reckoned among other injurious causes, and many persons so regard them, although I cannot see how they act injuriously upon a *flowing* river, since in any case, an open water-way remains. Nevertheless, the Lock at Teddington (Tide-end-Town) is popularly regarded as a great obstruction both to salmon and eels. I have not had an opportunity of inspecting the state of the river there, but I conceive that no real obstruction to the ascent of salmon need exist there. Nevertheless, it is the common opinion that “Eel-fairs” have ceased for the last sixteen years owing to Teddington Lock. “Eel-fairs” used commonly to occur about every seventh year, when thousands of little eels worked their way up the river, climbing over many obstructions, even surmounting the Lock-gates if they were wet, and being caught by every boy in the neighbourhood. I have heard of the same phenomenon in the Cherwell, from one who fished in that river, and cropt the rushes upon it more than a century ago.

I suggest, however, that the emptying of all sorts of injurious matter into the Thames is the chief and increasing source of evil—and amongst these, *none so bad as the gas-works*: indeed a few facts connected with gas-works tally with remarkable accuracy with the records of salmon fishing at Boulter’s Lock.

Thus, gas-works began to be used in London about

1813, and the very next year the salmon are diminishing in size as well as number !

In 1815 an action was brought against a Gas Company, near Salisbury-square, because the effluvia from its works were conducted into the Thames. *If the salmon had supported the action*, probably the evil, and many like it, would have been entirely stopped, and salmon would still have flourished in the Thames!!

In 1819, the Annual Register tells us—" they are now laying down gas-pipes adjoining Covent-garden, preparatory to the whole of the parish being illuminated with gas." Two years after this the salmon are extinct, and if gas-works do in only a few cases pour their effluvia, or any of their lime which is used in cleansing the gas, into the river, it would prove fatal to all kinds of fish for a long distance around.

I gather then, from all that I have been able to learn upon the subject, that the extinction of the salmon in the Thames above London is owing to few, if any, *local causes* existing at the time of their extinction, although some things may now exist in the localities they formerly frequented, which, unless removed, would be *unfavourable* to their flourishing there again ; though I repeat it, trout (and some of them very fine fish) are still far from scarce in the neighbourhood referred to.

If I am right in my conclusions, I may venture to offer a few suggestions by which it is highly probable that salmon could be restored to the Thames. The first of these, however, is entirely dependent upon the Board of Health. So long as the Thames, instead of being the noble river of London, continue to be the common filthy sewer of that wonderful city, no hope whatever remains. The horrible condition of that river illustrates with fearful accuracy the results of vice upon a community—it is felt in its influences where it is little suspected, and where it even seems impossible. The absence of salmon at Windsor and Taplow, and Henley, and perhaps to Oxford, is the silent testimony to the condition of the water at London.

There is much reason to hope, however, that this state of things will not long continue, and it is in the hope that a grand effort worthy of the City of London will be made to carry right away from its river the sewage of its streets—that I have ventured in my hours of recreation—to con-

template the suggestions which are now offered with much diffidence, *because when the Board of Health begins is the time for the Naturalist to begin also.* If the Thames once again continue its course to the sea with the clearness it still possesses before it approaches London, all other difficulties may with patient perseverance be overcome.

Let only a body of gentlemen residing on the banks of the Thames take a little interest in the matter, and in a few years the results would be all they could desire. *Presuming the river to be freed from the sewage of London,* I really think that all other needful circumstances may be obtained.

I.—Every possible precaution should be taken to secure an *open running stream* wherever a Weir, or Pound-lock, or Factory, causes a pen in the natural flow of the river. Through a great portion of every year there would be no difficulty in obtaining this; but occasionally, when through a long drought the waters fail, every mill-owner is naturally anxious to make use of all the water which comes down, to drive his machinery. A small "hatch," however, might be so contrived as to run over at the high-water point, or perhaps a little below this (with consent), and the water might, I think, be so concentrated below as to enable the fish to swim up it and to ascend. Unless a facility for this be secured, it is quite hopeless to calculate upon having salmon in the Thames. "There is that scattereth and yet increaseth." The miserable policy which would catch every salmon on its upward march to deposit spawn, would soon ruin any attempt to obtain them. Salmon cannot be "preserved" by keeping them within certain limits. *A free open passage up the river must be secured,* and all would reap the benefit. The salmon is emphatically a free-trader, and must have no restrictions in his travels. I believe that in a great portion of the year a very large hatch, giving a *clear* passage, may be always running; at other times it could be arranged in the manner I have suggested, and on every Sunday it would run to a much greater extent. A law in nature can no more be neglected with impunity than a law in morals. *Salmon must have "free ingress, egress, and regress" throughout their rivers, or they will never flourish.*

II.—It need hardly be added that there must be an introduction of salmon, but this demands no remark, since

the scheme lately put into operation in the North, appears to be very successful, although, as already mentioned, a very similar plan is recorded in the Annual Register for 1764.

III.—And there is no doubt also, that active precautions will be very necessary to enforce the observance of such laws as are really conducive to the preservation of salmon and other fish, and to the prevention of poaching and other clandestine means of taking them. Moreover, every effort should be made to prevent the introduction of deleterious matter into the river—from tan-yards, from paper-mills, from gas-works, from sewage, and from whatever source. And if in addition, the gentlemen whom I will presume to be the Committee of Management, would extend their influences to those smaller spring-streams which are naturally adapted for trout—and seek to carry out the same principles in these which I have suggested for the Thames, there is no doubt that a large addition to the number of *trout in the Thames* would be secured. Perhaps also it might be wise to restrain an abundance of very large pike in the river; though I am far from believing that game or fish are increased by an entire destruction of those animals, or fish of prey, which are known occasionally to attack them.

IV.—And certain spots ought to be left entirely free for salmon. Places should be ascertained which are likely to be favourite places with them, and these should be carefully guarded against ballast-engines and gudgeon-rakes, so that the spawn might be safely preserved. When we consider the quantity of spawn which even one salmon produces, it must be plain that with common care the race might soon become abundant. The spawn of one large salmon would replenish the river. I repeat it, however, ALL LAWS MUST BE BASED UPON THE COMMON SENSE PRINCIPLES OF NATURE; and since it is well known now that the salmon requires a free passage up the river, and presently a free passage down it to the sea—any scheme for the propagation of salmon which fails in this particular will surely pay the penalty which always follows a neglect of nature's laws, (a hint to us, this, of a great moral truth) and will be unsuccessful so long as her requirements are denied. If others shall derive any pleasure from perusing these remarks, or feel encouraged

in an endeavour to restore to the waters of our Royal River the finest fish that can adorn it, I shall be well repaid my labour in penning down the result of my researches. They were made during some happy hours of recreation, at a time when I greatly needed it; and, although my privilege and calling as "a fisher of men" have attractions for me which render such seasons very limited, I think it no impropriety to study the beauties and the phenomena of nature, persuaded that all creation is only a coarse engraving of those higher and sublimer truths which the spiritual kingdom possesses, and which are thus identified as coming from the same Hand.—Science has made great strides during the past century, and unhappily it has, in too many instances, obliterated the beauties of nature, so that one says of it—God made nature, but man made machinery. I humbly conceive that another effort only is wanting, and that then we may enjoy all the benefit which science and the fertile genius of man have produced, *without the destruction of those matchless beauties of Creation*, the study of which is so refining and healthful, and which rightly understood, is so heavenward in its tendency.

*August, 1857.*

#### FIBULÆ FOUND AT ASHENDON AND STONE.

Fibulæ of "saucer-shaped" type are rare. The finest examples known are two of the Anglo-Saxon period, which are now in the collection of the Hon. Richard Neville, and were formerly in the Museum at Stowe. They were found at Ashendon, Bucks, and are of very unusual size, the diameter being three inches and a half. They are jewelled, and the arrangement of ornament is cruciform. A bronze fibula, of the same type, found at Stone, in Bucks, is engraved in the *Archæologia* vol. xxx. p. 545. (*Archæological Journal* vol. vii. p. 72.)

## ON THE MANOR AND CHASE OF WHADDON, WITH ITS "FINDS."

BY THE REV. C. LOWNDES, F.R.A.S.

The earliest information relating to the ancient Manor of Whaddon, upon which dependance may be placed, is that contained in the Conqueror's survey, where it is written "Wadone;" but in other records "Waddun," "Waddon," &c. It is situated five miles north of Winslow, and mid-way between the County town of Buckingham and the Market town of Fenny Stratford, on the old Watling-street Road; and it deserves more particular notice by our Society than it has hitherto received, from the circumstance of its having been the site of several discoveries of relics of by-gone days; and of its possessing one of those ancient Chases (the only one in this County) in which the Norman Conquerors, and no doubt their predecessors the Saxons, as well as their successors, indulged in the pleasure of hunting.

In the reign of Edward the Confessor, this Manor was held by Edward Cilt, one of his Thanes or Knights, who had power to sell it; and in the time of the Domesday survey it had passed into the possession of Walter Giffard, who held it in hand. It was then assessed at ten hides. The land was ten carrucates, five of which, with five hides, were in the demesne, and five were held by fourteen villanes or copy-holders, and nine bordars or farmers. The meadow was five carrucates. There were ten bondmen or domestic servants; and woods for one hundred hogs. Its whole value, at the period of the survey, and previously, was £8.

This Walter Giffard was a near relative of William the Conqueror, whom he accompanied to England; and was, for his valour in that memorable battle fought at Hastings, against King Harold, in the year 1066, made Governor of this County, as the Earl of Buckingham. He was one

of the assessors of the survey, and for his zeal and attachment held many Manors of the Conqueror, and among them the Manor of Whaddon; for William seized the possessions of the ancient lords, and gave them away to his own friends and relations, and was most lavish in his gifts to Walter Giffard. On the completion of the survey, in the year 1084, Walter Giffard founded the Cluniac Priory of St. Faith, at Longueville, in Normandy, and afterwards bestowed "The Church of Whaddon, with its appurtenances, and the tithes of the demesne, lands, and of his woods, pannage, and venison, and all other profits from his woodlands and pasturage, for the cattle of the Monks of this Priory." Hence it has been remarked that the grant of the *Tithes of his Wood*, affords a strong evidence of the existence of Whaddon Chase, at least as early as the time of William Rufus. On the death of Walter Giffard, his son, Walter Giffard, succeeded to the title and estates, but dying without issue, his lands escheated to the crown.

The Manor of Whaddon, which had been separated from the Honour of Giffard, was granted by King Henry II. to Richard Humet, or Humez, as an appendage to the office of Constable of Normandy. His son, William Humet, obtained a renewal of the grant, and succeeded his father in the office of Constable of Normandy, and had livery of the Lordship of Whaddon. He was in possession of the Manor in the second year of the reign of King John; but falling under that king's displeasure, it was taken from him and was never restored. Three years afterwards, as William Humet died without issue, it was granted by King John to William, Earl of Arundel, upon whose death, and the death of his son, it was afterwards *inter alia*, granted in the twenty-seventh year of the reign of Henry III., *in capite* to John Fitz-Geoffrey, and descended to his son John Fitz-John, and then to his second son, Richard, who, dying without issue, left his manor, park, and chase of Whaddon, to Emma, his wife, for her dower, which, after her death, became part of the inheritance of Richard de Burgh, Earl of Ulster, his nephew.

In the thirty-fifth year of the reign of Henry III., Robert Giffard held a yard-and-a-half of land at Whaddon, by the sergeanty of keeping the lord's woods, at Whaddon, and 3s. 4d. quit-rent, or chief-rent. Robert Giffard was probably descended from a relative of Walter Giffard,

second Duke of Buckingham, who died without issue. His descendants, as the learned Camden informs us, were hereditary keepers of Whaddon Chase, under the De Burghs, Earls of Ulster, and were successively representatives of the County. John Giffard, anno 5. Henry V., was Sheriff of Buckinghamshire and Bedfordshire. The De Burghs lived in the time of the first three Edwards, and were Lords of Whaddon from about the year 1250 to 1360, when the Manor and Chase passed in marriage with Elizabeth, sole daughter and heiress of William de Burgh to Lionel Duke of Clarence, third son of Edward III., whose only daughter, Philippa, married Edmund Mortimer, Earl of March; and their son, Roger Mortimer, leaving only one daughter, named Ann, the Manor descended in marriage with her to Richard Plantagenet, of Coningsbury, whose son Richard, Duke of York, and Earl of Ulster, being slain at Wakefield, in the year 1460, whilst fighting against the house of Lancaster, left this Manor, together with Nash, and the Chase of Whaddon, to his Duchess Cicily, in dower. The grant was confirmed to her, for the term of her life, by her sons Edward IV. and Richard III., and by Henry VII., on their respective accessions to the throne. During her life the Manor was made part of the dower of Elizabeth, Queen of Henry VII., who succeeded to it on the death of her grandmother Cecily, Duchess of York, and held it until her own death; when Henry VIII. made it part of the dowry of his Queens Katherine of Spain and Jane Seymour, his first and third consorts. No other grant being made by Henry VIII., the Manor, with the office of hereditary keeper of the Chase, together with the capital mansion called Whaddon Hall, descended in marriage with Margaret daughter and heir of John Giffard to the Pigotts, a branch of the Pigotts of Doddershall, and afterwards to the Lord Grey de Wilton. Of this latter family, Arthur Lord Grey of Wilton, was Deputy of Ireland, and suppressed the Earl of Desmond's rebellion. His son, being charged with a conspiracy against King James I., to deprive him of his crown, forfeited this estate, which had continued in lease from the crown until this time, when James granted to his favourite Sir George Villiers, "all this Manor of Whaddon and Nash, "and all his demesne of Whaddon and Nash, and the site

"of the same Manor, and the park of Whaddon, called "the Queen's Park, and the Chase there, with all houses "and lodges thereunto belonging, and all deer and other "beasts of chase whatsoever, with all glebe lands, woods, "underwoods, Courts Leet, Courts Baron, and other appurtenances thereunto belonging, to hold to him and "his heirs for ever." And by other Letters Patent, the King also granted to him Giffard's manor, in Whaddon, and the little park, with the appurtenances belonging. Sir George Villiers having, in addition to the above grants, obtained by purchase the lease of the site of the old Manor house, and herbage of the park, united in himself the entire Lordship of Whaddon and Nash. Sir George Villiers was made Baron of Whaddon, and afterwards Duke of Buckingham, in 1623. His son George Villiers succeeded him, and dying possessed of the manor and estates, his trustees sold them by a decree in Chancery, eleven years after his death, January 5th, 1698, to James Selby, Esq., Sergeant-at-Law, and Thomas Willis, Esq., son of the celebrated physician of that name. In consequence of the death of Thomas Willis, in the following year, the arrangements respecting the partition of the property were not fully carried out until after Browne Willis, his son and heir came of age.

The yard and a half of land beforementioned, as being held by Robert Giffard, contained the whole site of the Hall and Hall-grounds, before Arthur Lord Grey added Old Lands and Old Lands Meadow to them, in the time of Queen Elizabeth. The Hall was situated on an exceedingly beautiful knoll of rising land, which commanded a view of all the adjacent country. And Arthur Lord Grey preferring this situation to Water Hall, near Fenny Stratford—which had been in the possession of his family 400 years—pulled down Water Hall, and carried the materials to Whaddon, to add to the buildings already erected by the Giffards and Pigotts. It was in the year 1568 that Arthur Lord Grey was honoured at Whaddon with a visit by Queen Elizabeth, on her Buckinghamshire progress; and she is said to have expressed herself greatly gratified with the sports of the chase in such a magnificent amphitheatre of wooded scenery. The old Mansion contained at this time the great hall, open to the roof, in length fifty feet, with a large chimney on the north

side, two large windows and a battlement porch on the south side, and three arched doors at the west end leading into pantries, cellars, &c., with about six other rooms on the ground floor. Part of the old mansion, adorned with a stone that had a bugle-horn carved on it, being part of the arms of Forster, first wife of Sergeant Pigott, existed in the time and in the recollection of the Rev. W. Cole, rector of Bletchley, from whose manuscripts this account has chiefly been taken; but it was demolished by James Selby and Thomas Willis, on the division of the property. Two parts in three of the house falling to the share or purchase of James Selby, Thomas Willis agreed to pull down his part; and had, at the time of his death, in the year 1699, accordingly tore up most of the floors above stairs, and beat down the ceilings. The Hall remained in this condition for some years, inhabited only by a dairyman, until Browne Willis, only son and heir to Thomas Willis, came of age, in the year 1704, when he purchased of Sergeant Selby the other part of the Hall and Hall-grounds, new ceiled and floored the remaining chambers above stairs, and rebuilt the front in the picturesque style represented in the accompanying print. On the east and west sides of the old Hall were some remains of ancient gothic windows with stone mullions, and some arms in stained glass. The tower in the background of the picture formed a corner staircase of a still older mansion of great antiquity. Browne Willis gloried in having rebuilt the stables and part of the office adjoining the kitchen with the materials of a dissenting chapel, which he bought and pulled down at Fenny Stratford. On the south side of the garden there was a most venerable oak tree, which was much cherished by Browne Willis, who used to say that Spencer, who was Secretary to Lord Grey, composed his "Fairy Queen," under it; and not far from this oak, and in a close adjoining the yard, there was a remarkable ash tree, which suffered considerably in the high wind, the same month in which Browne Willis died.

Mr. Sergeant Selby was succeeded in his estates by his son, Thomas James Selby, who purchased of the representatives of Browne Willis the Hall and grounds, and the pastures called Old Lands and Old Lands Meadows, and thus again united the Manor of Whaddon and the

whole estate. Thomas James Selby died a bachelor in 1772; but in the year 1768, desirous that the estates, which had been purchased and enjoyed by his family, should descend to some person of the name and blood of Selby, devised them with all his Manors, Whaddon Hall, Whaddon Chase, and Whaddon Park to his "right and lawful heir," for the better finding of whom, he directed advertisements to be published immediately after his decease in some of the public papers; but should it so happen that no heir-at-law was found, he then constituted and appointed William Lowndes of Winslow, his "lawful heir," on condition that he took the name of Selby. In consequence of this remarkable bequest, advertisements were published according to the directions, and numerous claimants from all parts of the country appeared, but none of their claims were established. In 1773 the Court of Chancery appointed Mr. William Lowndes receiver of the estates, while the claims of the several parties were considered; and in 1783 made a decree in which it was declared that the estates should be considered as belonging to him, that he should be put into actual possession of the property, and that the rents which had, up to that period, been paid into the bank, should be handed back to Mr. W. Lowndes, who had then assumed the name of Selby. Consequently in the spring of 1783 Mr. W. Lowndes Selby took possession of Whaddon Hall, and was on that occasion accompanied by a procession of his friends and dependants, together with a band of music. In Trinity Term, in the following year 1784, he levied a fine with proclamation, and retained possession. Actions of ejectment were however brought against him by parties claiming the property, but they were all uniformly decided in his favour.

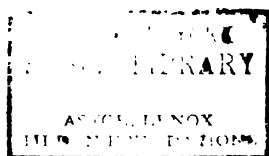
Mr. W. Lowndes Selby was Lord of the Manor of Winslow, and great grandson of William Lowndes, Secretary to the Treasury in the reign of Queen Anne, and for many years Chairman of Ways and Means in the House of Commons. He died May 3rd, 1813, when he was succeeded by his son William Lowndes, one of the Knights of the Shire in Parliament for this County, who took the name of Selby, June 11th, 1813, and resumed his family name of Lowndes by license. A writ of right was brought against this Mr. William Selby Lowndes in the

Court of Common Pleas, and was tried at bar, April 23rd, 1835, when a verdict was returned for the tenant in possession. This was the last writ of right that could be tried; a recent act of Parliament having abolished all proceedings in future in this form. A bill of exceptions was however taken to that portion of the charge which related to the subject of the demandant's pedigree; judgment upon the exceptions was given by the Court of Error in favour of the demandant, and a *venire de novo* awarded, under which a second trial took place on November 28th, 1838, by a Jury of the Grand Assize. This was a form of trial peculiar to the Court of Common Pleas, and was one of the most ancient of our legal institutions. Four Knights of the County, girt with swords, were selected, and were sworn in Court to choose twelve others; these were called "Knights recognitors" and being sworn as the "Grand Assize" were empannelled to try the question between the two parties who were termed "tenant" and "demandant." The great distinction in this form of trial was, that four judges presided in Court. The trial lasted several days, and upon this occasion, as upon the former, a verdict was returned for the tenant. In the evidence on the trial, it was stated that when Mr. W. Lowndes Selby took possession of Whaddon Hall in the year 1783, a may-pole was erected, that great rejoicings took place, with music, dancing, and various entertainments, and that "Mr. Lowndes Selby joined in the dancing with the pretty Buckinghamshire girls at old Whaddon Hall."

Although the second trial had been decided in favour of the tenant, a bill of exceptions again went up to the Court of Exchequer Chamber; but between the date of the verdict and the allowance of the bill of exceptions, Mr. Selby Lowndes died. On the 8th of February, 1843, therefore, the demandant sued out a writ of right against Mr. William Selby Lowndes, son and heir of the late tenant. This writ of right was compromised three years afterwards by Mr. W. S. Lowndes, the present possessor, in whose heirs the estate is now vested.

Whaddon Chase was the principal woodland in the northern part of this County, and contained 2,200 acres of coppices, interspersed with oak, ash, and other timber. It was considered sufficient to maintain 1,000 head of





deer, but the Lord of the Chase had power to stock it with as many more as he pleased. Right of Common in the Chase was claimed and exercised by several villages in the neighbourhood, insomuch that the reporters of the agricultural state of this County in 1794 complained that the young timber was much destroyed by the deer, and the commoners' cattle.

The Chase, secluded as it was, and so covered with underwood and forest trees, afforded, no doubt, a secure retreat to the ancient inhabitants; and now that the greater part of it has been enclosed and brought into cultivation, it is not at all surprising that relics of former days should be frequently discovered—and that treasures concealed underground for the sake of security, or from the miserly propensities of individuals, should be brought to light. And such indeed has been the fact, a brief record of which is added to this paper.

In a part of the Chase called "Narbury," a number of British gold coins was turned up by the plough, on February 14th, 1849; an interesting description of which has been given in the "Records of Buckinghamshire," vol. I, p. 15; and also in the "Numismatic Chronicle," No. XLIV, page 1. These coins are of a later period than those of Cunobelin, with the wheat-ear and rampant horse: they belonged to the rude and degenerate class of ancient British money, and not to the earliest period of our primitive national coinage. It is not improbable that these coins were struck in haste and emergency, and this might account for the rudeness of a type at so late a period. The extent also to which they were alloyed, favours the belief that they were hastily prepared, probably by melting down vessels and ornaments. Of these coins 320 reached the hands of W. S. Lowndes, Esq., the Lord of the Manor; and but for the law of treasure-trove (a relic of the feudal ages, which gives the property of such antiquities to the owner of the soil, and not to the finder) it may be presumed that a much larger number would have come into his possession, for it was supposed at the time that about double the number were secretly sold, and found their way into a dealer's hands: they were probably soon melted down.

In a coppice adjoining Narbury, there are indications of a large rectangular encampment, evidently Roman, en-

closing a space of about five acres, with its vallum and fosse quite perfect. This encampment was no doubt attached to the larger stations at Stony and Fenny Stratford, on the Watling-street road, which the Romans had established when the resolute struggle of the Britons for their independence was ended in this part of the island. Hence many Roman coins, and other relics, have at different times been found at and near these stations, and also in the neighbourhood. Cole mentions that several Roman coins have been found at Fenny Stratford, and that he added to his collection above one hundred from that spot, besides various other ancient objects. Three miles west of Whaddon, and near the site of the battle, which is said to have been fought by Cunobelin, at Thornborough-bridge, are two tumuli or barrows, one of which was opened in 1842, when many Roman vestigia were discovered.

In the autumn of 1857, near the site of the old Priory of Snelshall, on the borders of the Chase, and between Narbury and the Watling-street Road, an earthen vessel was discovered by some drainers. It was unfortunately broken to peices; but it contained about 140 Roman small brass coins, which relate to the troublous times that followed the close of the reign of Gallienus, when in consequence of the looseness of his government, all the provinces revolted, and a number of hot-headed usurpers assumed the purple, and devastated the whole country. This "find" consisted principally of the coins of Gallienus, Tetricus senr., Tetricus junr., Claudius Gothicus, and Victorinus—all of which coins are in the possession of the Lord of the Manor. Also in the Autumn of 1858, as some men were grubbing the root of a tree in a part of the Chase, near Salden, about one mile from Narbury, they found a small brass box, of an oval shape, containing three gold coins—guineas—of Charles II., in a perfect state of preservation. These coins are also in the possession of the Lord of the Manor.

Not far from the Chase, and in the direction of Winslow, a so-called fibula (from the drawing it is not a fibula, but an armilla) of copper was found, on the estate of William Lowndes Selby, Esq., in the month of June, 1793, in a bed of solid clay, at the depth of five feet below the surface of the ground, and by the side of a rivulet. This fibula is figured in the *Archæologia*, Vol. XI, page 429,

An interesting "find," on December 31st, 1858, may here be recorded as a conclusion to this paper. North of Whaddon, in the Parish of Weston Underwood, near Olney, an earthen vessel was discovered by some labourers in White's Close, containing Roman coins. Sir Robert Throckmorton, as Lord of the Manor, claimed them for treasure-trove, and obtained possession of 166 Imperial Denarii, 4 Legionary coins, 1 small brass coin of the Lower Empire, 1 of Augustus B.C. 42, and 4 of Mark Anthony B.C. 30. A few others found their way into the hands of local collectors. Most of the Denarii were in a good state of conservation, and they consisted of the following Emperors:—

|                 |    |                     |    |
|-----------------|----|---------------------|----|
| Nero .....      | 1  | Hadrian .....       | 36 |
| Galba .....     | 5  | Antoninus Pius ..   | 24 |
| Vitellius ..... | 1  | Faustina Senr. .... | 15 |
| Vespasian ..... | 17 | Marcus Aurelius ..  | 16 |
| Titus .....     | 6  | Faustina Junr. .... | 5  |
| Domitian .....  | 5  | Commodus .....      | 2  |
| Trajan .....    | 33 |                     |    |

Many pieces of Roman pottery, and men's and horse's bones were found at the same time: and they have been sent by the Lord of the Manor to this Society, together with a few pieces of the vessel in which the coins were found; but they are not sufficient to supply a description of its shape or size. Sir Robert Throckmorton has also presented to the Society eleven of the Imperial Denarii. The whole of these coins have been described for the owner, by Vice-Admiral Smyth.

#### ANTIQUITIES FOUND NEAR THORNBOROUGH.

The Hon. Richard Neville has in his collection some bronze vases, of exquisite form, some cinerary urns of glass, a bronze lamp, and some other remarkable remains, which were discovered near Thornborough, Bucks, in a tumulus which proved to be the depository of the richest series of Romano-British remains hitherto explored, with the exception, perhaps, alone of the Bartlow Hills, in Cambridgeshire, excavated by the late Mr. Rokewode.—(*Archæological Journal*, vol. 5. p. 82.)

## DRAYTON BEAUCHAMP.

MANORIAL HISTORY, (*Continued from Vol. 1. p. 301.*)

### THE CHEYNE FAMILY.

JOHN CHEYNE, grandson of Thomas, and son of John Cheyne, of Chesham Bois, by Perinda, daughter of Sir Robert Whitney, succeeded his father at Chesham Bois, in 1459, being then a minor, about thirteen years of age. In 1494, on the death of Agnes, widow of his great-uncle, Sir John Cheyne, he inherited the Manor and Advowson of Drayton Beauchamp, and, by virtue of the will of the said Agnes, became possessed of the Manor and Advowson of Cogenhoe, in the county of Northampton. He died in 1496, and, according to Browne Willis, was buried in the churchyard, at Chesham Bois, having married Elizabeth, daughter of Edmund or Edward Brudenell, of Raans, in the parish of Amersham, "an ancestor," says Burke, "of the noble houses of Ailesbury and Cardigan." By this marriage, the Manors of Shardeloes and Raans, in the parish of Amersham, and of Grove, in the parish of Chesham, came into the Cheyne family. Grove, which is about four miles from Chesham, and now in the possession of W. Lowndes, Esq., still retains vestiges of a strongly-fortified mansion,\* which must have been of great antiquity, for it came to the Brudenells in the reign of Richard II. by the marriage of William Brudenell with Agnes, daughter and heir of Thomas de la Grove,† whose name clearly indicates that the demolished mansion at Grove, was his place of residence.

This John Cheyne was succeeded by his son JOHN CHEYNE, who was sheriff of Bucks and Beds in 1505 and in 1520. He married Margaret, daughter of Robert Ingleton, Esq., of Thornton, near Buckingham, by whom he had issue—Robert, his heir: Margaret, married to Paul Dayrell, Esq., of Lillingstone Dayrell; and Elizabeth married to William Fawconer, Esq., of Ashenden, Bucks.

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\* See Records of Bucks, vol. 1. 125—26.

† Collins' Peerage, vol. iii. 315.

He died in 1535, and was buried in Drayton Church. His monument, which has long since been destroyed, is thus described in a manuscript copied by Browne Willis—

“Ad murum Borealem Tumulus hoc Epitapho Æneis

Formis circumdatis inscripto :

Pray for the soul of John Cheyne, Esquier, and Margaret his wife, daughter of Robert Ingolton, of Thornton, Esquier, which John decessed the 1st day of January, A.D. 1535. In ipsomuro Æneis laminis affingitur Imago Hominis cataphracti Ense et calcaribus inducti flexis genibus levatis manibus hoc Titulus adscripto :—

Oratio Johis Cheyne Armigeri qui sub hoc Tumulo jacet cum Margarata uxore sua Filia Roberti Ingolton nuper Dni de Thornton in com. Bucks.

In Hora mortis succurrere nobis Domine

In Die Judicii libera nos Domine.”

ROBERT CHEYNE, who succeeded his father in 1535, was at that time, says Bridges,\* forty-seven years old. He could not have been a young man, for in 1529 his daughter Elizabeth had become the wife of Benedict Lee, of Hulcot, as appears by a fine respecting the Manor and lands in Oving, to which both Robert Cheyne and his daughter Elizabeth were parties.

In 1540 he was appointed one of the commissioners to enquire into Notley Abbey; in 1543 he received a grant from Henry VIII. of certain woodlands, called Chivery, in the parish of Aston Clinton; and in 1546 he joined with Edmund Peckham, Esq., in the Presentation of Richard Platt to the Vicarage of Mentmore, “*pro hac vice*.”

He married first Elizabeth, daughter of John Webbe, in Co. Hertford, Esq., gentleman pensioner to King Edward IV. She was also widow of Fulk Odell, Wodehall, or Wahall. By this lady he had—1, John his heir; 2, Catharine, married to Christopher Lidcott, in Yorkshire, and afterwards to Edward Mastyn; 3, Margaret, married to Richard Duncombe, of Marlow, Bucks; 4, Elizabeth, married to Benedict Lee, of Hulcot, Bucks, brother to Sir Robert Lee, of Quarrendon, ancestor of the noble houses of Lichfield and Dillon; 5, Isabel, married to

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\* History of Northamptonshire. Bridges, however, erroneously calls Robert Cheyne, the son instead of the grand-son of John the successor of Agnes, widow of Sir John Cheyne.

Roger Lee, of Pittson, also brother to Sir Robert Lee. Robert Cheyne married, secondly, Mary, daughter of John Sylam, of Bramhanger, Bucks, by whom he had—1, Thomas, who married a daughter of Sir Thomas Rotherham, of Luton, Beds; 2, Mary, married to John Newdigate, of Harefield, Middlesex.

Robert Cheyne died in 1552, and was buried by the side of his wife, who had predeceased him, in the chancel of Chesham Bois Church, where memorial effigies in brass still mark the spot of their interment. [See the illustration.] There is a peculiarity about these memorials which requires some comment. The effigy of the wife occupies the middle portion of a slab, with the following inscription subjoined:—

“Of yo<sup>r</sup> charite pray for the soule of Elizabeth Cheyne late the wife of Robert Cheyne gentleman the which Elizabeth decessed the xx daye of decembre the yer of o<sup>r</sup> lord m v<sup>c</sup> xvi on whose soule thu have mercy amc.”

To the right of the wife, but near the verge of the slab, is placed the effigy of the husband, while the inscription referring to him, instead of being under his effigy, is placed beneath his wife's inscription, and is as follows:—

“All Christian people gyve thank<sup>e</sup> for the godly depture of Robert Cheyne Esquier who decessid the nynthe daye of December in the yere of o<sup>r</sup> lorde God-a-Thousand fyeve hundreth fyfte too ∴ whose soule we comendith to God<sup>e</sup> infinite mercy.”

The position of these memorials shōws that the usual provision for the husband's was not made when the wife was buried, or that their arrangement has since been altered. It is also worthy of notice that these inscriptions clearly indicate the change of doctrine respecting prayer for the dead which had occurred between the deaths of the husband and wife. The memorial of Robert Cheyne, which so pointedly avoids prayer for the dead, was doubtless executed under the direction of his son John, who, as will presently appear, became an active promoter of the Reformed Religion.

JOHN CHEYNE, on the death of his father, inherited extensive possessions, among which were the Manors of Drayton and Helpsthorpe, consisting of upwards of 1700 acres, and the Advowson of Drayton Rectory; the Manor and Advowson of Cogenhoe; the Manor and Advowson of

Chesham Bois; the manor of Shardeloes, in the parish of Amersham; the Grove, in the parish of Chesham; together with land adjoining their Drayton property, in the parishes of Tring, Puttenham, and Buckland.

In the 6th of Edward VI., about the time of his succeeding to the family property, John Cheyne was elected one of the representatives in parliament for the Borough of Wycomb. In 1556 he presented Hugh Hall to the vicarage of Little Missenden. In 1559 "John Cheyne" was appointed a commissioner, with John Jewell, William Lovelace, and others, to bear certain injunctions for the reformation of religion into various parishes in the province of Canterbury. This John Cheyne was probably the lord of Drayton, as his father had exercised a similar office, and from his living so near Ashridge, where Queen Elizabeth for some time resided, his character and protestant principles were probably known to her. In 1561—2 he presented Robert Grave or Grove to the rectory of Drayton; and in 1565 he was Sheriff of Bucks and Beds.

In 1568 he presented John Lawton, or Laughton, to the rectory of Cogenhoe, and removed him to the rectory of Drayton in 1572; presenting John Spicer as his successor at Cogenhoe; and on the death of Laughton, in 1584, he presented Richard Hooker to Drayton on the 7th of September in the same year. On Hooker's removal to the Temple Church, in 1585, John Cheyne presented Edward Field, A.M., to the rectory of Drayton, on November 5th, in the same year. He died within a few weeks afterwards. He was twice married. His first wife, Winifred, daughter of John, First Lord Mordaunt of Turvey, in Bedfordshire, died in 1562, and was buried in the chancel of Chesham Bois, where there is still a slab with the matrix of an effigy, and the following inscription, in perfect preservation:—

"All christian people give Thanks to the lorde for the godly dep'ture of Wenefride Daughter to the late lorde Mordant and wyfe to John Cheyne Esquier, who decesed viij<sup>th</sup> day of July in the yere of o<sup>r</sup> lorde a mcccc lxiij whose soule we commende to God' infinite mercy."

He married, secondly, Joice, daughter of Sir Anthony Lee, of Quarrenden, Bucks; which marriage is thus entered in the Register of Chesham Bois:—

"Maister John Cheyne Esqre and Mifstrefs Joice Lee

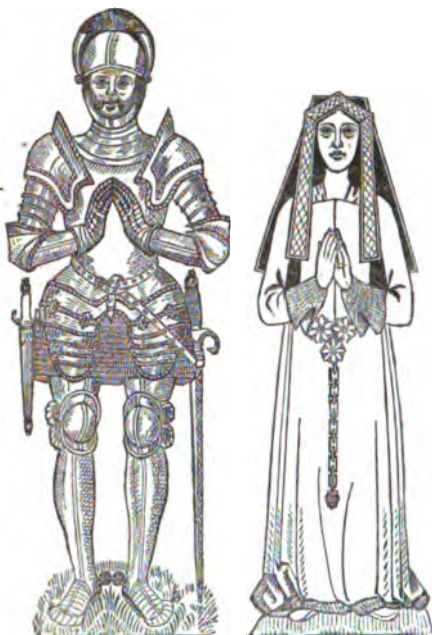
the daughter of Sir Anthony Lee Knight were married the 29<sup>th</sup> day of November A<sup>o</sup> Dni 1561." This is the year before the death of Winifred, his first wife, the date of whose death, as given above, is still perfectly legible on her memorial slab. Probably the engraver added a stroke too many after the X, which would then give a few months between the death of his first wife and his marriage with his second. By these two wives he had many children, but the notices of them are so contradictory that I cannot assign each with certainty to the proper mother. Lipscomb and others leap over the difficulty by assigning all to the second wife, except, Temperance, who is mentioned in Drayton Register as daughter of his first wife. But it would have been more faithful to have acknowledged the difficulty, as such a statement is only calculated to perplex and mislead. Probably those of John Cheyne's children not to be found in any parish register, were born before Temperance, and so must have been by his first wife. I will therefore name them in this order: 1—John, was undoubtedly his eldest son, but was disinherited, for what cause I have not been able to ascertain, and some writers question the fact, but the evidence of its truth still existing is too conclusive to admit of a doubt. He married Margaret, daughter of Sir Thomas Skipswich, Knt., of St. Alban's, and lived at King's Langley, where his wife died in 1578, and was buried in the Church, under a slab, inscribed with the following significant epitaph:—

"Loe, here's interred a Wife of worthy Fame,  
Whose Virtues great, and honest Life deserve the same:  
Margaret was her name, by marriage Cheyney hight,  
Late Wife of Cheyneys Son to Chesham Bois by right.  
Her due Descent from Skipwiths Line, late of St. Alban's Town,  
And married to that Cheyneys Heir, a House of old renown!  
Full ten years she in marriage lived, five children was her share,  
The Heavens have two of the five, three left to Fathers care.  
Her Life so good, her death not ill, I hope shall not deny  
But that her Soul in Jesus Christ shall live eternally.

30. January 1578. secundum computationem Ecclesiæ Anglicanæ."

This inscription proves beyond a doubt that John Cheyne, the husband of the above Margaret, must have been by his father's first wife, for it shows that he himself was married within six years of his father's second marriage. Perhaps, too, the words "Son to Chesham Bois by right" indicate a sense of being unjustly disinherited.





Of yo<sup>r</sup> charite pray for the soule of Elizabeth Cheyne  
late the wife of Robert Cheyne gentlman the which  
Elizabeth decessed the xx daye of decembre the yer of  
o<sup>r</sup> lord m be xbi on whose soule thu have mercy ame.

All Christian people gybe thank<sup>e</sup> for the godly  
depture of Robert Cheyne Esquier who decessid  
the nynte daye of December in the yere of o<sup>r</sup> lorde  
God-a-Thousand fyve hundreth fyfte too .. whose  
soule we comendith to God<sup>e</sup> infinite mercy.

ROBERT CHEYNE, ESQ. AND WIFE,  
*Chesham Bois Church.*

He survived his father, who bequeathed him the Grove, in the parish of Chesham, where probably he occasionally resided; but he was buried in the Church at King's Langley, as appears by the following inscription, existing in 1850:—

HERE LYETH INTERRED THE CORPSE OF IOHN  
CHEYNE GENT WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE  
IN THE TRVE FAITH OF CHIRST IESVS THE  
FIRST DAY OF FEBRVARY ANNO DNI 1597.

This inscription is on a small plate of brass, let into a slab, which joins another slab containing an effigy of a lady in the costume of the sixteenth century, and which probably represents Margaret, the wife of John Cheyne, but the inscription to her was either gone or concealed by a pew, when I visited the Church in 1850. I have, therefore, copied her inscription from Chauncy's Hertfordshire. 2—Francis, who succeeded his father. As he will have to be noticed hereafter, it is only necessary now to observe that he must have been by his father's first wife, for his memorial in Drayton Church shews that he was fifteen years old at his father's second marriage. 3—Thomas, who was buried in the chancel of Drayton Church, on 30th of January, 1619; \* where there is still a small plate of brass, to his memory, with this inscription:—

"HERE LIETH THE BODY OF THOMAS CHEYNE ESQ.  
BROTHER TO SIR FRANCIS CHEYNE KNT. WHO  
DIED JAN<sup>ry</sup> 29<sup>th</sup> 1619.

4—Margaret. 5—Mary. 6—Elizabeth, married to Edmund Fleetwood. Anne, married to William Rowe, of High Hall, Essex. 7— "Temperance y<sup>e</sup> daughter of John Cheyne and Wenefryde his wife was baptized y<sup>e</sup> 3<sup>d</sup> of April, 1552."†

These children were probably all by the first wife; the following were certainly by the second:—

1—Katharine, the daughter of John Cheyne and Joys his wife, baptised 5 Dec<sup>r</sup> 1563.‡ 2—"Henrie Cheyne the sonne of Maister John Cheyne of Chesham Bois

\* Drayton Register.

† Ibid.

‡ Chesham Bois Register.

Esq.<sup>re</sup> was baptised the 4<sup>th</sup> day of September,\* no year mentioned, but it is entered before the following:—

3.—“Joice Cheyne the daughter of Maister John Cheyne of Chesham Bois Esq.<sup>re</sup> was baptised the 9<sup>th</sup> day of November A<sup>o</sup> Dni 1567.”\* She married Edward Nowell of Edmonton.†

4.—“Dorothe,” baptised 8<sup>th</sup> August, 1570. ‡

5.—Hellen, baptised 29<sup>th</sup> July, 1571. ‡

Joice, the wife of John Cheyne, was buried at Drayton, on the 11 of July, 1579. ‡

John Cheyne, of Chesham Bois and of Drayton Beauchamp, died on the 1<sup>st</sup> of November, and was buried on the 1<sup>st</sup> of December, 1585, in the chancel of Chesham Bois, where there is an elaborate altar tomb to commemorate him, adorned with various coats of arms. It stands within the communion rails adjoining the north wall, to which is affixed a large tablet, bearing the following inscription:—

“Humanus hic jacet Johannes Cheyne armiger, qui in testimonium zeli sui versus Dei Evangelium in ecclesia de Tringe fundavit pium predicatorem evangelii sumptibus annuati stipendii XL<sup>lb</sup> pro termino LXXXXIX annorum et in fraternam charitatem versus piissimos pauperes professores ejusdem donavit parœchiis de Aylsbreri, Wendover, Beconsfieldi, Milsenden Magnæ, Burnham, et Denham annatim XL<sup>s</sup> durante dicto termino et in perpetuum donavit similiter parœchiis de Chesham, Amersham, Tringe, et Drayton Beauchamp et istæ parvo parœchiæ XX<sup>s</sup> et Choldesberi XX<sup>s</sup>. Posteritati suæ exemplum et Decus-

Non obiit sed abiit Novembris 1. anno dni 1585.”

The several charities above mentioned are provided for in his will, in which he also bequeaths to John, his eldest son, Helstropp, or St. John's field in Helstropp, and the Grove, in the parish of Chesham. To each of his daughters he bequeaths £300. To his “daughter Mary,” wife

\* Chesham Bois Register.

† Burke's Landed Gentry.

‡ Drayton Register.

of his son Francis, he bequeaths 200 acres of pasture and 150 acres of meadow land, for her life, and in default of issue, to go to "John Cheyne, his eldest son."\*

The nature of John Cheyne's charities clearly indicates his desire to disseminate the doctrines of the Reformation, and they were well devised to accomplish his object. His magnificent endowment of a lectureship for Tring, equal at least to £800 a year at the present day, was amply sufficient to secure an able preacher of the reformed faith, while his charitable bequests to indigent professors of the same faith, would be an encouragement to those who already professed it, and be a means of steadily increasing the number of converts. Various conjectures have been advanced respecting John Cheyne's motive for selecting Hooker as rector of Drayton. Doubtless he was influenced in this act by the same religious principles which decided the character of his charities. He resolved to have a rector who could preach to his congregations; for at that period there was scarcely one village incumbent in a hundred who could preach, and six or even four sermons in the course of a year were considered a fair allowance for a country parish; but John Cheyne appears to have selected preachers for the livings in his patronage. He appointed John Lawton, Hooker's predecessor, first to Cogenhoe, and then to Drayton, where he died; and in the registry of his burial he is expressly recorded as "M. A., and preacher of the word." John Cheyne, therefore, doubtless appointed Hooker to Drayton because he was a sound preacher of the scriptural doctrines of the Reformation, and not as has been suggested, because, from the poverty of the living he could not easily find another to accept it; At that time the living was relatively of more value than it now is, for a third, at least, of its income has since passed away by modusses; and the fact of Lawton having been promoted from Cogenhoe to Drayton, shows that the latter was not, at that period, quite so miserable a benefice as worthy old Izaak Walton seems to intimate.

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\* This doubtless means, to John Cheyne's eldest son, i. e. the eldest son of his own disinherited son John, to whom the property came after the death of his son, Francis.

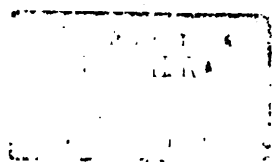
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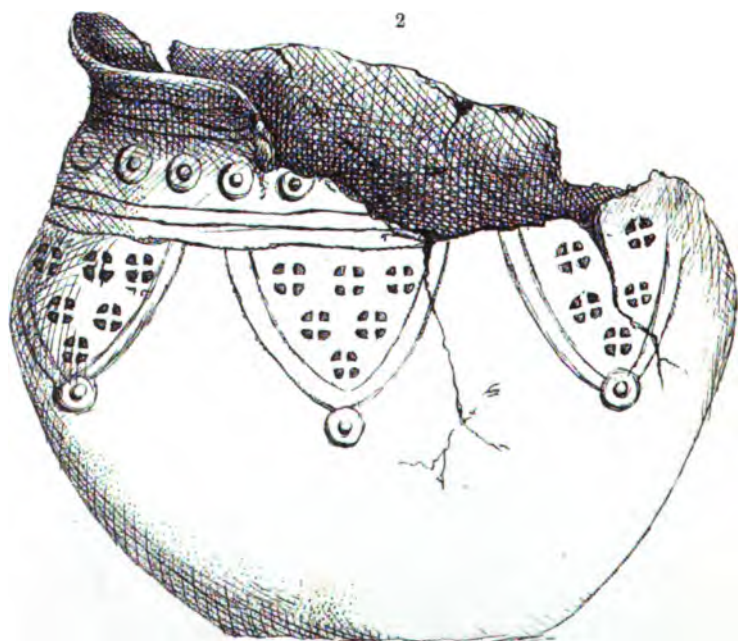
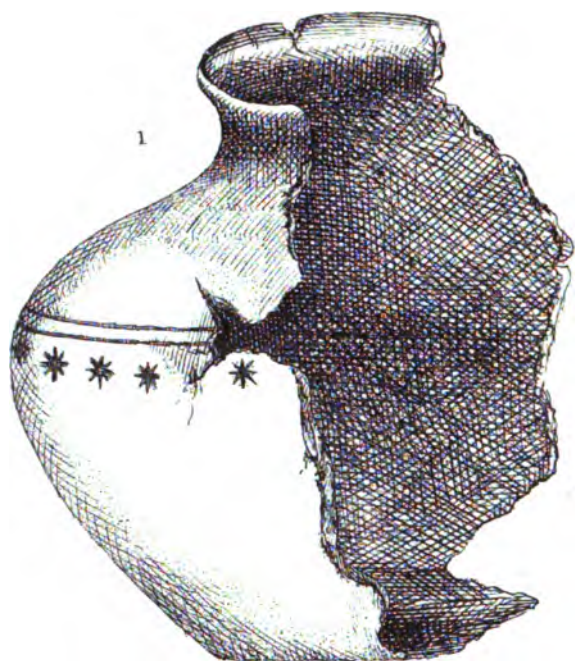
## RESTORATION OF ST. MARY'S, LAVENDON.

This fine old Church has lately undergone a thorough work of restoration, which has been effected chiefly through the efforts of the Rev. William Tomkins, rector, and patron of the advowson. The Church is one of great antiquity, some portions of it—the tower, certainly—being of Saxon origin. The interior of the Church has been almost entirely renewed. The high pews have been removed, and very chaste open seats have been substituted for them. The whole Church has been newly floored, the chancel re-roofed and paved with Minton's tiles. The chancel has also been supplied with new oak stalls, prayer desk, and rails. Two of the columns on the north side had given way, and have had new foundations, and the windows have been supplied with new stone jambs, where necessary. A very handsome painted window has been presented by Mr. Churchwarden Brookes, of the Grange, for the east end of the Church; and a memorial turret window, for the south, has been presented by Mr. Churchwarden Coles. The restoration of the Church has been effected by Mr. W. Parker, builder, of Thrapstone, from the designs, and under the superintendence, of W. Butterfield, Esq., architect, London. The Church was reopened for divine service on Friday, the 4th of November, 1859, the Bishop of Oxford and the Archdeacon of Buckingham being present on the occasion.

DISCOVERY OF A VAULT IN THE CHURCHYARD,  
AT CHESHAM.

As some workmen were employed repairing the main path leading from the vicarage to the parish Church, they came in contact with some bricks; and, upon further examination, found steps descending into a vault, in which were discovered eight coffins, which were fallen into great decay. Some of them appeared to be much older than others, and of five of them no inscription could be deciphered. The other three, which were evidently of a much later date, were, after considerable difficulty, deciphered, from which it appears to have been the vault of a family of the name of West. The dates are as follows:—W. West, Esq., died February 13th, 1721, aged 86 years. Miss Johanna West, died July 18th, 1746, aged 28 years. Richard West, died December 21st, 1752, aged 52 years.





## EXCAVATIONS AT DINTON.

BY J. Y. AKERMAN, Esq.

*Society of Antiquaries, London,*

*27th Dec., 1859.*

MY DEAR SIR,

I cheerfully comply with your request that I should give you an account of my researches in the month of June last at Dinton. I regret, however, that I have so little to communicate that may prove of interest to the Members of the Bucks Archæological Society. Many of its members have, doubtless, inspected a collection of natural curiosities and antiquities preserved at Dinton Hall. Among the latter are some Anglo-Saxon remains discovered just ninety years ago, during excavations for the foundations of the modern antique fabric, known as Sir John Van Hattem's Summer-house, on the right hand side of the road leading from Aylesbury to Thame, and about a quarter of a mile north of the Church of Dinton.

These relics have been faithfully represented in the Album at Dinton Hall, and in the "Nenia Britanica" of Douglas. They consist of the iron head of a spear, much corroded, a knife, and a long drinking-vessel, in shape, resembling a modern ale-glass, but without a stalk or base, so that when filled it could not be set down. This vessel has sustained much injury, doubtless at the time of its disinterment, which seems to have been effected by pure accident, and in the rudest possible manner. The decidedly Anglo-Saxon character of these remains will be readily recognized.

Knowing my devotion to this branch of our national antiquities, Mr. Goodall very kindly allowed me in the past summer to make researches on the spot; accordingly, on the 14th of June, I opened ground on the western side of the building, and within a very few feet of the

wall. We had soon evidence that the ground in this spot had been removed in past ages, but no traces of interment were observed. The excavations were continued on the following day with the same result; but on the third day we were more successful. Continuing our trenches in a north-westerly direction, we came upon two skeletons, with the heads lying N.W. The first was of a woman, or of a youth, much decayed; the other of a man of moderate stature, the thigh-bone measuring seventeen and three-quarter inches. Proceeding in a still more northerly direction, we discovered two skeletons in very shallow graves. On the succeeding day, the workmen came upon what appeared to be the skeleton of a woman, and subsequently to the remains of a young person much decayed. Near the waist we observed traces of what was probably a buckle or tag of brass, which had perished. In a line with this grave, another was found, containing the remains of a young person without any relic.

The ground at this spot is very unfavourable for extended research, being intercepted by a road-way and hedges, and occupied by fir-trees, planted there at the time of the erection of the building. Want of leisure compelled me to abandon the investigation, which I learn has been resumed by Mr. Goodall himself. The nature of these discoveries does not however lead me to doubt that these interments are part of an extensive cemetery in the immediate vicinity, the traces of which are only to be discovered by a systematic exploration.

I am, my dear Sir,

Yours very faithfully,

J. Y. AKERMAN.

REV. CHARLES LOWNDES,

*Secretary, Bucks Archaeological Society.*

EXCAVATIONS CONTINUED, by the Rev. J. J. GOODALL.

*Bromham Rectory, Jan. 3rd, 1860.*

MY DEAR SIR,

You ask if I have any further particulars to give of the Anglo-Saxon burial-place at Dinton, in fact, what was the result of the diggings in October last? Alas! *nil*, or next to *nil*. My friend, the Rev. William Monkhouse, a great authority among the Archæologists in Beds, being with me last autumn, I resumed the diggings commenced under Mr. Akerman's direction in the summer, the result of which I believe he has given you.

In October we continued the trenches he had begun, and opened five or six fresh parallels, with one transverse cut, chiefly on the East and North-east of the ruinous building, commonly called "Dinton Castle," between the building and the turnpike-road. Finding nothing, and indeed it being quite evident the soil had never been disturbed there, I had a trench cut in the immediate proximity, North of the castle, and there, close to where five human frames were found in the summer, we came upon two more—one lying, like the others, nearly N.N.W. and S.S.E., the other evidently having been exhumed before, and little except the skull remaining. I believe there can be no doubt whatever, according to the rule laid down by Mr. Akerman, drawn from repeated observations, that, from the *filed* or *worn-down* appearance of the teeth, the remains were Anglo-Saxon. Whether this appearance, or rather effect, is caused by *actual filing*, or by the *nature of the food* eaten, I must leave to him or others to settle—the fact is patent! A quantity of broken pottery very fragmentary, probably Romano-British, or early Edward, with a few fragments of glass vessels, perfectly iridescent, were also found, with a large quantity of some black substance, mixed with yellow clay, which certainly resembled wood ashes, but which I understood Mr. Akerman to say was indeed a ligneous substance, but brought into that state by the action of water or damp.

At our first examination we came upon what looked like a well, quite circular, and filled with flat stones, each stone of which was packed flat and level as a barrel of oysters. This was left for future examination; and ac-

cordingly, in the autumn, this supposed well was emptied, and found to be not above five or six feet deep, the bottom being firm and level.

It having been suggested that further discoveries might probably be made if search were prosecuted on the other side of the turnpike-road, near a clump of trees, upon the brow of the hill, I had a trench dug in a circle round it, with one deep transverse cut, but nothing of consequence turned up, nor had the earth ever been disturbed.

There are one or two other likely localities which probably I may at some time or other investigate; but I confess I am wholly inclined to believe (what also our learned friend in the matter deems probable) that this spot was not a general burial place, nor that of a tribe, but only of a family.

It is to be remarked that we found no human remains ten paces from the castle walls. That building (erected, if I think right, in the year 1758) crowns the summit of the highest ground in the neighbourhood; and in digging the foundations of it a number of skeletons were exhumed, with a quantity of arms of various descriptions, a very beautiful Anglo-Saxon drinking-glass, and a glass bottle of the time of Edward the Second. How this last became deposited in such a situation—deponent sayeth not—possibly merely for concealment. My theory as regards the other is, that the father, as chief of the family, was buried with some of his treasures and arms, as indicating his rank and station, upon this spot of the hill, and that his family or dependants were clustered round him without other deposits of any kind. Mr. Akerman remarked upon this poverty, saying “it must have been the cemetery of the Poor Law Union of the time!”

I remain,

Yours sincerely,

J. J. GOODALL.

Rev. C. LOWNDES.

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## FLINT IMPLEMENTS FROM THE DRIFT.

BY JOHN EVANS, ESQ. F.S.A., F.G.S.

At the Annual Meeting of the Society, held at Aylesbury on the 5th of January, 1860, Mr. Evans exhibited a number of the flint Implements from the Drift, which have of late attracted considerable attention among both Antiquaries and Geologists. He remarked that the "drift" was a term applied to a number of superficial deposits varying considerably in character, some being clay and some sand and gravel, but all due to the "drifting" action of ice or water. The beds from which the flint implements have been procured, are of fresh-water origin, and have been referred by Geologists to the so called Post Pliocene period. Mr. Evans then considered the subject under three heads—

FIRST—Are the flints really implements?

SECOND—Under what circumstances have they been found?

THIRD—At what period were they deposited where found?

In considering the first point, he showed from the general similarity of form, the nature of the chipped edges and their analogy to a certain extent with weapons of a later period, that there could be no reasonable doubt as to their having been really formed by the hand of man. An objection had been raised by some that these forms could not have been chipped out by a people unacquainted with the use of metals, but he had himself experimented upon this point, and had produced the form of one of the implements with precisely the same character of edge, by chipping one out of a block of flint by means of a rounded pebble. The forms found in the "drift" are three—1: flakes of flint, apparently intended for knives or arrow-heads—2: pointed implements usually terminated at the base, possibly used as spear or lance-heads—3: oval or almond shaped implements, with a cutting edge all round, possibly intended either for axes or sling stones.

The first form was so simple, and the flakes so closely resembled those of a much later date, that much importance did not attach to them ; but both the other classes of implements were peculiar, and varied considerably from the well-known stone implements of the so called Celtic period, of which specimens were also exhibited. These latter are usually ground at the edge, if not all over, and are made to cut at their broad end, whereas those from the "drift," which approach nearest in form, are made to cut at the narrow end, and are never ground. They are also made of various materials, as greenstone, basalt, &c. ; whereas those from the "drift," as far as has hitherto been ascertained, are exclusively of flint.

With regard to the circumstances of their discovery, Mr. Evans observed, that implements apparently fashioned by the hand of man, had been found in the late excavations conducted under the auspices of the Royal and Geological Societies, in a cave at Brixham in Devonshire, and similar discoveries had also been made some years ago in Kent's Hole, near Torquay. This called the attention of English Geologists to the point, and Mr. Prestwich, distinguished for his long-continued exploration of the "drift," having heard reports of similar discoveries made near Abbeville, determined to investigate them on the spot. It is due to M. Boucher de Perthes, a distinguished French savant at Abbeville, to say that as much as ten years ago he had made the discovery of these implements in the "drift" near that town, and communicated it to the world in his book entitled "*Antiquités Celtiques et Antédiluviennes*." His discovery had been treated with unmerited doubt and neglect, but the researches of Mr. Prestwich at Abbeville, where he had been joined by Mr. Evans, convinced them of the truth of many of M. de Perthes' views ; and at Amiens, some thirty miles distant, this conviction was strengthened by the sight of one of these flint implements still *in situ* in a perpendicular bank of gravel. It was firmly embedded in it, at a depth of eleven feet from the surface, and the strata above it were entirely undisturbed. They consisted of gravel, sand and clay, or brick-earth, which latter contained the delicate remains of fresh-water shells—so that it was quite impossible for the implements to have been introduced from above at any time subsequent

to the formation of the beds. It therefore followed that they had been washed into the gravel with its other constituent parts at the time of its deposit. Large numbers of the implements had been found in this pit, near Amiens, which was excavated in table-land, at an elevation of about a hundred and eighty feet above the sea, and about eighty feet above the River Somme, at that place. Some animal remains were found in the same pit, but in a continuation of the same gravel at a little distance, many bones and teeth had been found of the mammoth, rhinoceros, hippopotamus, and other animals now extinct. Since the visit of Messrs. Prestwich and Evans, many other Geologists, including Sir Charles Lyell, had been there, and in several instances had themselves found implements of flint in such situations that they were perfectly satisfied that they were still in the very spots in which they had been left by the water to whose action the "drift" was due.

But it was not only along the valley of the Somme that such implements had been discovered. On returning to England Mr. Evans had noticed an account of some flint implements discovered at Hoxne in Suffolk, in 1797, published in the Thirteenth Volume of the *Archæologia*, and from the account there given of the circumstances of their discovery by Mr. Frere, it was evident that it was an analogous case to those at Abbeville and Amiens. He had in consequence visited Hoxne in company with Mr. Prestwich, and investigated on the spot, the discoveries recorded by Mr. Frere. They had also caused excavations to be made, and in the gravel thrown out from a trench, sunk under their own directions, Mr. Evans had found an implement of the spear-head form, which had come from a seam of gravel at a depth of eight feet from the surface. Mr. Frere had recorded the finding of curious bones in this pit, and of late years bones of the mammoth and other animals had been found there, and as far as could be ascertained, in close proximity to the flint implements. The deposit at Hoxne is also of fresh-water origin, roughly stratified, and overlying the boulder clay. It must have been deposited at a time before the face of the country at that point had received its present configuration. A large number of the implements had been found in the pit in former years, but of late they had been rather

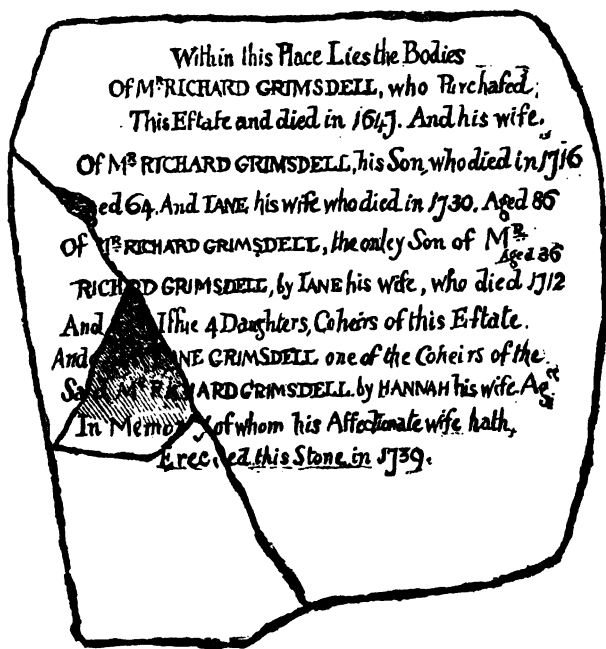
scarce, only two having been found during the previous winter. Another implement of the spear-head form, and precisely similar to those from Hoxne, is preserved in the British Museum, and was recorded to have been found nearly two hundred years ago in Gray's Inn Lane, in company with the tooth of an elephant!

Such were the circumstances of the discovery of these implements, and there could be no reasonable doubt that those who made them must have been contemporaries on earth with the mammoth, the rhinoceros *tichorhinus*, the great cave bear, and other animals long since extinct. The same waters which had carried away their carcasses and bones had also at the same time inhumed these relics of a higher order of beings. But at what date this took place was still a mystery. It was a question whether the age of these extinct animals was not to be brought down to a period nearer our own time than has commonly been supposed, rather than that the age of man should be carried back through untold centuries. There could, however, be no doubt, that a very long period must have elapsed since those who used these weapons and implements had existed—our only means of judging of the time that had elapsed was by the changes that had taken place on the earth's surface since their deposit, and these were such as would apparently require a longer period than that embraced by our ordinary chronology. At Amiens these weapons had been caught up by rushing water, together with the bones of extinct animals, and deposited in beds of gravel. Above this gravel, in comparatively tranquil water, thick beds of sand and loam have been deposited, containing the delicate shells of fresh-water mollusca, and where all this took place, is now table land at an elevation of one hundred and eighty feet above the sea—this too in a country whose level is now stationary, and the face of which has but little altered since the days when the Gauls and Romans constructed their sepulchres in the soil overlying the beds of "drift" containing these far earlier relics.

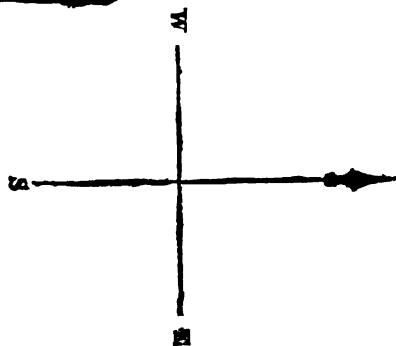
In conclusion, Mr. Evans suggested a careful examination of all gravel-pits in which mammalian remains are found, with a view of ascertaining whether other traces of the primeval race of men who formed the implements, could not be found in fresh localities.

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Within this Place Lies the Bodies  
Of M<sup>r</sup> RICHARD GRIMSDELL, who Purchased  
This Estate and died in 1647. And his wife,  
Of M<sup>r</sup> RICHARD GRIMSDELL, his Son, who died in 1716  
Aged 64. And JANE, his wife who died in 1730. Aged 86  
Of M<sup>r</sup> RICHARD GRIMSDELL, the only Son of M<sup>r</sup> <sup>Aged 86</sup>  
RICHARD GRIMSDELL, by JANE his wife, who died 1712  
And Issue 4 Daughters, Coheirs of this Estate.  
And JANE GRIMSDELL, one of the Coheirs of the  
Son of M<sup>r</sup> RICHARD GRIMSDELL, by HANNAH his wife. Aged  
In Memory of whom his Affectionate wife hath  
Erected this Stone in 1739.



TOMBSTONE AT COKE'S FARM.

## REMARKABLE BURIALS.

*The Bury, Chesham,*

*Dec. 27th, 1859.*

MY DEAR UNCLE,

I send you a drawing of the Tombstone, near Coke's Farm, in the parish of Amersham, distant three miles from the Parish Church. The inscription is copied verbatim with all its faults. The stone was erected by Mrs. Hannah Grimsdell in 1739, in memory of her husband, Richard Grimsdell, whose immediate ancestors were also buried in this vault, and whose grandfather, Richard Grimsdell, purchased the estate, and died in the year 1647. It appears that there were entries made at the time of the burials in the Parish Register, as the following extracts will show, though the name is spelt differently in two of them :—

1716. Sept. 18th.—Richard Grimsdale, buried in wool-len; aff. made by Dorothy Dosset.

1730. Dec. 11th.—Jane Grimsdell, buried in her orchard; aff. by Dorothy Dosset.

1739. May 30th.—Jane Grimsdale, spinster, buried in an orchard; aff. by Martha Ewen.

The tombstone was formerly surrounded by a wall four and a half feet high, all traces of which have now disappeared. About fifty-five years ago some trees, which are still standing, were planted round the burial-ground, close to the foundation of the wall.

I also enclose a drawing of the Monument in the parish of Great Missenden, erected on his own property, by Mr. Backhouse, of Havingfield Lodge. It is situated one mile distant from the Parish Church, on the right hand of the road leading to Wendover, in a plantation on the

hill. Mr. Backhouse died in June, 1800, at the age of eighty years, and was by his express desire buried in this tomb. Seven years afterwards his son and successor, Lieutenant-General Backhouse, removed the coffin to Great Missenden Churchyard, and erected a tombstone to his memory. The removal is recorded in the Parish Register, as the following extract will show, viz.:—"August 8th, 1807.—The remains of Thomas Backhouse, Esq., removed by a Faculty from the Archdeacon of Buckingham, from the Mausoleum in Havenfield to the Churchyard of Great Missenden, and there interred. He died June 21st, 1800."

The monument is about eleven feet square at the base, six and a half feet high on the north side, and four and a half on the south side; the whole building is from sixteen to eighteen feet high. There is a window or loop-hole on the north side, and also one on the south side, each one foot long by eight inches wide. The entrance was on the west side, but it is now built up with flint. The monument is built of flint, edged with brick on the roof; and from the circumstance of some plaster still remaining near the top, as seen in the drawing, it may be presumed that the whole building had formerly been covered. It is now in a very dilapidated state.

Believe me,

Yours affectionately,

WM. LOWNDES.

REV. C. LOWNDES.

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From the Rev. BRYANT BURGESS.

*Latimer Rectory, Chesham,*

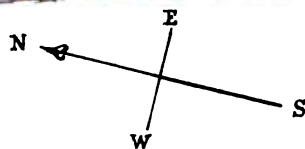
*Dec. 29, 1859.*

MY DEAR MR. LOWNDES,

I went yesterday to look at the tombstone of the Grimsdells. I know of no reason for these strange burials: but the date of the first interment at Coke's Farm (1647) suggests to my mind what may be a clue to the whole question. In those troublous times, in which we know



*Cornell's Anastatic Press Spout h*



# **BACKHOUSE'S TOMB**

*From a drawing by W. Lowndes Jun. Esq.*



that party spirit ran very high in the country, it would seem not unlikely that Grimsdell, with perhaps a prejudice against the service, and a dislike to consecrated ground as connected with the idea of prelacy, might choose to be buried in that picturesque spot on his own property. The spot close by the house, and overlooking a beautiful valley among the hills, is just such an one as a man might stand on day by day, until with the peculiar notions we have imagined, he might fancy it for his body's resting-place. The head of the family being buried there, and a vault made, the descendants, brought up with the same opinions, might choose to be buried there also; and then Mr. Liberty, of Chorley Wood, (whose name may have had its origin in the free-thinking propensities of the family) may have admired the spot, and the peculiarity of such a place of burial—and so have resolved upon a similar tomb for himself in his own field two miles away.

Now this is all *my supposition* only, but it appears to me the most likely solution of the mystery. In the case of the Grimsdells, the proximity of "Chapel Field" seems to point the other way; but there is no sign that I can find of any other interment there, and the wording of the inscription is different from what we should expect to find in a Churchyard. If there was a Chauntry Chapel there before the Reformation, the bounds of the old Chapel-yard may have remained in the seventeenth century, and so, though unused for a time, might sanction the idea of interment. I enclose a little account of the Flaunden Tomb.

Believe me,

Very faithfully yours,

BRYANT BURGESS.

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#### FLAUNDEN—FLANDEN—OR FLAMDEN.

The old Church or Chapel of Flaunden is situated in a corner of Hertfordshire which projects into the county of Buckingham, between Chenies and Latimers. It is now in ruins, a new Church having been built in the village.

About two hundred and twenty yards east of the old

Church, in an orchard by the side of the footpath, is an altar-tomb of very fine brick-work, surmounted by a flat stone slab, and about the tomb are four stones marking the extent of the vault. The stone slab bears the following inscription :—

Sacred to the Memory  
of Mr. William Liberty, of  
Chorley Wood, Brickmaker,  
who was by his own desire buried in  
a Vault in this part of his estate.  
He died 21 April 1777 aged 53 years.

Here also lieth the Body of  
Mrs. Alice Liberty  
widow of the above named  
William Liberty  
She died 19 May 1809  
aged 82 years.

The Tomb stands east and west.

It seems to me not improbable that having seen the tomb of the Grimsdells, at Coke's Farm, this person may have imbibed the idea of being buried in a similar way.

There is a report that Liberty was an atheist, but I know of no proof of its truth.

*Dec.*, 1859.

BRYANT BURGESS.

## THE RHYNE TOLL OF CHETWODE.

Ἐν δὲ τῷ αὐτῷ χρόνῳ τούτῳ, ἐν τῷ Μυσίῳ Οὐλύμπῳ σὺδ' ἡρῆμα γίνεται μέγα ὀρμειώμενος δὲ οὗτος ἐκ τοῦ οὔρεος τούτου τὰ τῶν Μυσῶν ἔργα διαφθείρεσκε. πολλάκι δὲ οἱ Μυσοὶ ἐπ' αὐτὸν ἐξελθόντες, ποιέεσκον μὲν οὐδὲν κακὸν, ἔπασχον δὲ πρὸς αὐτοῦ.

Herod. Clio. sect. xxxvi.

As it is the province of the Society to collect notices of local customs and privileges tending to throw light upon the history of our county, I shall offer no excuse for drawing attention to the Rhyne Toll of Chetwode, an ancient and singular right exercised by Sir John Chetwode, Bart., and his ancestors. The Rhyne commences at nine o'clock in the morning of the 30th of October, when a horn is blown on the Church-hill at Buckingham, and gingerbread and beer distributed among the assembled boys. The girls present are not admitted to a share in the bounty, but no reason has been assigned for this partiality save that of immemorial custom. When a sufficient quantity of these viands has been disposed of, the bearer of the cakes and ale proceeds through the village of Tingewick to the extreme boundary of the county towards Oxfordshire, in front of the Red Lion Inn near Fimmere, three miles distant, where the horn is again sounded, and a fresh distribution of provisions takes place, also limited to the boys. At the conclusion of these formalities, the Rhyne is proclaimed to have begun. One toll-collector is stationed in the town of Buckingham, and another in the hamlet of Gawcott, a mile and a half distant, each empowered to levy a tax, at the rate of two shillings a score, upon all cattle or swine, driven through the townships or hamlets of Barton, Chetwode, Tingewick, Gawcott, Hillesden, the Precint of Prebend End in Buckingham, Lenborough, and Preston-cum-Cowley, until twelve o'clock at night on the 7th day of November, when the Rhyne closes. For a long time the farmers and occupiers of land in these parishes have been accustomed

to compound for immunity from this toll by an annual payment of one shilling each. It has however happened that persons, not thus compounding, have passed their cattle, and refused the customary charge; but in every case the toll has been ultimately recovered, either by the commencement of legal proceedings, or the more summary process of detaining one of the animals. Before the opening of the Buckinghamshire Railway, the proceeds of the toll have been known to amount in one year to upwards of twenty pounds, mainly owing to large droves of Welch and Irish cattle; but as this stock is now sent by train, the receipts are much diminished, and at the present time the Rhyne Toll is rented by Mr. Superintendent Giles, of Buckingham, at twenty-five shillings annually.

The date of the commencement of the Rhyne Toll is buried in obscurity. The Chetwodes, originally deriving their name from the place of their residence, have been seated there since the twelfth century, and the estate has passed onwards in direct male succession from Robert de Chetwode, temp. Henry II. Tradition speaks of the right as existing from time immemorial, and granted to the head of the Chetwode family and his heirs for ever, in reward for his having killed a fierce wild boar, long the terror of the farmers of these parts; but whether the privilege was acquired by Royal Grant, or by Charter from the grateful inhabitants of the district, confirmed by the Lord of the Fee, seems now impossible to be ascertained. Another tradition relates that Boarstall, in the vicinity of Chetwode, owes its origin to a somewhat similar event. Here, as the legend runs, Nigel the Forester, like the elfin child at King Arthur's Court,

Stoode

Looking out a dore  
' And there as he was lookinge  
He was ware of a wyld bore.'

He was ware of a wyld bore  
Wold have werreyed a man :  
He pulld forth a wood kniffe,  
Fast thither that he ran :  
He brought in the bore's head  
And quitted him like a man.

For a service of this nature Edward the Confessor is said

to have rewarded Nigel with a grant of one hide of land, on which he built a mansion, naming it Boarstall, to commemorate his own exploit and the royal bounty. Hearne, the antiquary, it should be said, questions the legend, suggesting with great probability that the name is derived from the Saxon Burgh-Stall, "a seat on the side of an hill." The true derivation of the name is however comparatively unimportant for the present purpose, since the existence of the tradition is sufficient to show that wild boars must have once abounded in the woodland district between Chetwode and Brill, a favorite hunting ground of Henry III. The portion near Brill of this tract of country was anciently the Forest of Bernwode, while that around Chetwode was called Rookwoode, and the privilege of the Rhyne extends over an area supposed to be conterminous with the boundaries of the latter forest. Dr. Lipscombe, in attempting to fix the date of the Grant or Confirmation of the Toll, refers to a Charter of 1283, which however appears to be nothing more than the Grant of a Fair at Chetwode. The earliest certain notice of the Rhyne the writer has met with, belongs to the reign of Elizabeth. Sir Richard Chetwode died in 1561, and his widow, Agnes, heiress in her own right of Warkworth in Northamptonshire, re-married to Sir George Calverley. A suit was instituted, apparently between herself and her husband on the one part, and the trustees of Sir Richard Chetwode, her son by her first husband, on the other part, to ascertain whether Lady Calverley had a life interest in the Chetwode estates; and among other things in the Rhyne Toll. The pleadings in this cause supply some curious information:—

To Articles filed against George Calverley and Agnes his wife in Hilary Term 19<sup>o</sup> Elizabeth, they make answer *inter alia*—

"That they have been seized of the Manor of Chetwode with the appurtenances in this Demesne as of Fee in right of the said Anne (or Agnes), and that the Common of that Manor contains by estimation 2000 acres of ground and no man can say to the contrary. The which 2000 acres be in Chetwode, Barton, Tingewick, Gawcott, Hillesden, Prebend End, Lenborough, and Preston cum Cowley; and also to have by the space of three days yearly between the feast of St. Michael the Archangel and St. Martin the

Bishop in winter a Drift of all cattle that shall be found in those three days within the said Commons, called the Rhyne, in Chetwode, Barton etc., by the Bailiff, officers, tenants and other servants in manner and form following, *i. e.*

“ In the beginning of the said Drift of the Common or Rhyne, first at their going forth they shall blow a welkeshell or horne immediately after the sun-rising at the Mansion House of the Manor of Chetwode, and then in their going about they shall blow their horne the second time in the field between Newton Purcell and Barton Hartshorne in the said County ; and also shall blow their horne a third time at a place near the town of Finmere in the County of Oxford ; and they shall blow their horne the fourth time at a certain stone in the market of the town of Buckingham and there to give the poor sixpence, and so going forward in this manner about the said Drift shall blow the horne at several bridges called Thornborough Bridge, King’s Bridge, and Bridge Mill. And also they shall blow their horne at the Pound Gate, called the Lord’s Pound, in the Parish of Chetwode.\*\*\*\* And also that the said George and Anne (or Agnes) have all the time been used by their officers and servants to drive away all foreign cattle that shall be found within the said three days within the Parishes, fields, etc. aforesaid, to impound the same in any pound of the said towns and to take for every one of the said foreign beasts two pence for the mouth and one penny for a foot for every one of the said beasts ; And further that the said officers and servants have always been used to take all cattle so taken and impounded by them within three days to the Lord’s Pound in Chetwode, and if any Cattle shall remain in the Pound at Chetwode and not be claimed at the end of the next three days, then the next day following after the rising of the sun the Bailiff or officers of the Lord for the time being shall blow their horne three times at the gate of the said pound, and make proclamation that if any persons lack any cattle that shall be in the same pound, let them come and shew the marks of the same cattle so claimed by them, and they shall have them, paying unto the Lord his money in the manner and form before-men-

tioned, otherwise the said cattle that shall so remain shall be the Lord's, as strays."\*

The claim of the Lord of the Manor to all stray unclaimed cattle is well established in law, and is embodied in the Dialogue of Aura and Modely, in Charles Johnson's play of "The Country Lasses"—

AURA. We have no title to you at all; if you were a couple of stray cattle, all we can do is to bring you to the constable.

MODELY. And what then?

AURA. Why, then he must cry you three market-days, and if nobody owns you, you fall to the Lord o' the Manor.

But the Calverleys appear to have exercised the larger right they possessed under the Rhyne privilege with considerable rigour. As soon as the last-mentioned proclamation was concluded at Chetwode, the animals unclaimed were at once escheated, and if the owner afterwards appeared, he could only obtain his cattle by paying their full market value. But if the owner refused to give the required sum, or none came forward, the cattle were at once driven to Warkworth in Northamptonshire, and sold, whence it became a popular saying at Chetwode that "Cattle that drink of Warkworth water never come back to Bucks."

The tradition, describing the Right of Toll to have originated in the courage of one of the Chetwodes in destroying the wild boar, was remarkably corroborated within the present century. In the parish of Barton Hartshorn, within a mile from Chetwode Manor House, close to the boundaries of Tingewick Wood, a large mound of earth formerly existed, surrounded by a ditch, known by the country people as the "Boar's Pond." It was situated on the right hand side, a few hundred yards from the road leading from Chetwode Manor House to the Finmere and Bicester turnpike, and remained overgrown with gorse and underwood, until brought under cultivation at the enclosure made about 1810. At that time the tenant in occupation levelled the whole of the mound, filling up the greater portion of the ditch, and in removing the earth, discovered the remains of a large boar of

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\* From the MSS. collections of the late Rev. T. Silvester, Vicar of Buckingham.

enormous size. The animal had evidently been laid at full length on the ground, doubtless on the very spot where it had been killed, and the earth heaped up on it from all sides, thus forming the mound and the ditch. A portion of the bones, which were well preserved, remained under the charge of the occupier of the land until the present Sir John Chetwode succeeded to the estate, when he took them into his own possession, and favoured the Society by their exhibition at the Annual Meeting held at Buckingham in 1855. Two years ago the contributor of this paper visited the spot where they were found. Part of the ditch still remained, trodden in at the edges, and in shape nearly triangular. In length it measured about ten paces from north to south, and about six at its wider extremity, and was said to be from three to four feet in depth. It was stated that the tenant of the land intended to drain and fill up the pond, and throw it into cultivation with the rest of the land, then arable, in which case all traces of the exact locality will be destroyed. The field, however, is still called the "Boar's Head Field."

H. ROUNDELL.

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LICENSE TO EAT MEAT; AN EXTRACT FROM THE  
PARISH REGISTER, HARTWELL.

"Whereas, by reason of notorious sickness, and infirmity of body, Mr. Thomas Carter, vicar of Dinton, in the county of Bucks, and Mrs. Jane Carter, his wife, with two of their children, William and Jane, may not use a fish diet without great prejudice to their health, I, therefore, William Braig, Curatt of Stone, in the said county of Bucks, do grant unto the said Mr. Thomas Carter, his wife, and their two children, William and Jane, license to eat flesh this Lent season, during the continuance of their sickness and weakness, for the better recovery of their health, according to the purport and true meaning of the Statutes in that case provided. In witness whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name, this second day of March, Anno Dom. 1635.

WILLIAM BRAIG.

This License was registered March 13th, by Wm. Braig.

M John Mortimer's marke.

## THE LAST GIBBET IN BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

BIERTON VICARAGE,  
April 18, 1860.

DEAR SIR,

I know not whether any record of what is considered the last gibbet erected in Bucks may be allowed a corner in your Magazine. If, however, you deem it worthy of insertion, it may interest some of your readers, and may call forth some remarks on similar relics of the past. I may add, that I am indebted to a parishioner for the collection of facts.

I am, Sir,  
Yours most truly,  
J. WHARTON.

To Rev. C. LOWNDES.

In the Parish Register of Bierton, in the year 1773, we find the following entry :—" June 10th, Mary Holt, spinster, was buried ; she died June 4th, and Richard Holt, widower, he being most barbarously murdered in his bed-chamber on the 7th day, at night."

Corbet, a rat-catcher and chimney-sweep, living at Tring, had been engaged at Bierton for some days previously to this entry, and amongst other places, it is said, he was employed on the premises of Richard Holt, a small farmer, whose daughter Mary was then lying dead. It is said that when Corbet arrived at the house, he saw through a window Holt engaged in prayer. Having waited till his victim was asleep, by means of a ladder placed against a chimney, he effected a descent into the house, and murdered Holt. It is said traces of blood still remain on the floor of the house. Corbet having secured his plunder, then hastened to depart by the door of the house, on opening which, his dog unobserved by him, ran in, and was thus left behind. On the milk-boy going to his master's house in the morning, and finding him not up, the attention of the neighbours was directed to the fact, and on opening the door they at once recognized the dog as the property of Corbet. Guided by the dog who followed the scent of his master, the constable succeeded in apprehending Corbet at Tring, with some of the stolen property in his possession. He was tried, found guilty,

and condemned to death at the forthcoming Midsummer Assize. The son of James Durley, the parish clerk, then a lad sixteen years of age, used to say he walked behind the cart, through the village of Bierton, to the place of execution, which was in the corner of a field on the right-hand side of the road leading from Bierton to Hulcott. Young Durley remarked, "The front was about eighteen feet high, and served both for gallows and gibbet. I saw the cart drawn under the gallows, and after he was dead, I saw his body incased in irons, and hung up; the road was impassable for a furlong each side of the part, from the crowds who came to witness the execution."

Benjamin Green, who was born in Aylesbury in 1785, and died in Amersham Union in 1857 or 1858, stated that his father, who was a blacksmith, made the ironwork of the gibbet.

The spot where the gibbet was erected is distant from the house in which the murder was committed, about seventeen chains, and the field since the inclosure has been called "Corbet's Piece," while the lane facing the western boundary of the field has acquired the title of "Gib Lane."

Mary Lane, who lived servant at the farm-house adjoining, could see as she sat up in her bed, the body of the murderer hanging from the gibbet; and the farmers who live higher up the village say that their parents were unable to open their windows until after the following harvest in consequence of the smell from the decomposing body.

In 1774, a sporting character, passing through Bierton, offered an old shepherd 2s. 6d. to climb the post and draw a pair of black gloves over the hands of Corbet, and to hang a black scarf over the face, a feat which he successfully accomplished.

In 1795, a "constant reader" of the "Bucks Herald" says, "I went to Bierton Feast, and then the gibbet was standing, and to the irons was attached a human skull, which was the skull of the man who had committed the murder." He further adds, "my father assisted at the erection of the gibbet."

The irons remained some years after this until worn away by the action of the swivel from which they were suspended; they were then kicked into the ditch, where it

is believed they rotted away; the remainder of the post was used for a gate-post, and, it is said, is still upon the same farm.

I should likewise add, that the footpath running from "Chalk-house Arms," and continuing along the back of the hovels in Bierton, as far as "the milestone," dates from this execution, and was made in order to avoid passing the gibbet, and also a temporary carriage-road was made along the same track: the latter was likely to have occasioned some serious inconvenience at the time of "the inclosure," which took place in 1779. The carriage-way was then finally closed, but the footpath still remains.

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CURIOUS NOTICE RESPECTING THE CROMWELL FAMILY;  
FROM THE PARISH REGISTER, AMERSHAM.

"1656.

October y<sup>e</sup> 12. Edward Cutler the late Register then died and was buried the 14th day of the same month.

October y<sup>e</sup> 19th. Paul ford was then lawfully elected Register and sworn by Francis Russell, Esq., Justice of the Peace, the 20th day of the same month."

\* "This Francis Russel lived at y<sup>e</sup> Hill Farm, in y<sup>e</sup> Parish of Chalfont St. Giles, and on y<sup>e</sup> confines of this Parish; he was one of Oliver's Justices, and a fit man for y<sup>e</sup> times, I knew his son, a kind of non-Con., who, came to poverty, and sold y<sup>e</sup> Farm. General Fleetwood lived at y<sup>e</sup> Vache, and Russel on y<sup>e</sup> opposite Hill, and Mrs. Cromwell Oliver's wife, and her daughters, at Woodrow, High House, where afterwards lived Captain James Thomson, so y<sup>e</sup> whole Country was kept in awe, became exceeding zealous, and very fanatical; nor is y<sup>e</sup> poison yet eradicated; But y<sup>e</sup> Whartons are gone, and y<sup>e</sup> Hampdens agoing.—B: R: 1730."\*———Extracted 5th June, 1860, by me, JOHN T. DRAKE, Rector.

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\* The words between the asterisks are in a different hand, and were probably written by Benjamin Robertshaw, M. A., who was rector of Amersham from 1728 to 1743. Lipscombe gives a very inaccurate copy of the above interesting extract.

## HISTORICAL MEMORANDA OF BIERTON.

In 1623 the Rev. Joseph Bird was presented to the Vicarage of Bierton, and in 1624 we meet with the entry of the baptism of his daughter Mary. The last and most touching entry respecting him is in 1662:—" Was buried December the 6th, the Rev. Joseph Bird, vicar of this parish, sequestered for the space of seventeen years for his loyalty and service to his sovereign Charles the First; was restored again 1660, at the coming in of his Majesty, that now is Charles the Second." From the incidental notices which occur in the register from time to time, it would seem that though sequestered he still remained in the village; and it is gratifying to find that among his parishioners there were those who deeply sympathised with him—for among the small bequests we find one of Mrs. Elizabeth Norton, the profits of which Mrs. Bird was to enjoy for life.

The extract above alluded to, carries us back to the year 1643; but it is evident that he manifested his loyalty and rendered service to his Sovereign Lord the King at an earlier period than this. We learn by the following extracts from the letters of Nehemiah Wharton, a subaltern officer in the Earl of Essex's army, that an opportunity presented itself for his doing so in 1642:—

" August 17th.—Our companies after they had taken sixe delinquents and sent them to London, returned to Aylesbury; this day we retained two field pieces and two troops of horse, with other necessities of warre.—Wednesday morning a Warwickshire minister, which the cavalliers had pillaged to the skin, gave us a sermon; afternoone our regiment marched into the field and skirmished.—Thursday morning another sermon was given us.—Afternoone our regiment marched into the field, but by reason of foul weather, were immediately dismissed."

We should here remark, that the date of this extract is at least five days before the King set up his standard, so

that the men who fell in this skirmish would be in all probability those of the Bucks Yeomanry Corps, called out by some patriotic and loyal Magistrate to preserve the peace, likely to be endangered by Hampden's proceedings. In this corps there were then, and for many years after, several of the wealthy inhabitants of Bierton, as shown in the Parish Register, and the head inn in the village at that time (but now a private house) bore the significant sign of the "Valiant Yeoman."

Of the written evidence concerning this field of strife, I rather seek than attempt to give any information; possibly "Lord Nugent's Life of Hampden," or the pamphlet, "Good and joyful news out of Buckinghamshire," might throw some additional light upon the period under consideration; but the very limited time at my own disposal prevents me consulting them; I must therefore confine myself to the unwritten evidence which the parish affords, consisting of arms, armour, bones, coins, clothing, and lands bearing particular names, which I can only account for on the supposition that on these spots deadly warfare has occurred.

I request you patiently to follow me along that muddy lane, nearly opposite to the Church of St. James, at Bierton. At the distance of about a dozen chains you will find it crossed by a branch of the old Icknield way; passing which, and going on to nearly the top of the lane, you will find on the N. W. side a meadow bearing the significant title of "Breach Meadow." I admit that, taken by itself, the name might not be of much consequence, and might only have reference to cultivation of the soil; but its importance, in an historical point of view, arises from its position with other fields, and from certain relics. Leaving this meadow in a south-westerly direction, we come to "The King's Furlong." Standing on this land, with your face towards Holman's bridge, we have in front "Goodson's," a field so called from the family of Goodson, whose name appears in the register of Bierton as early as the year 1621. On and near this plot of ground numerous relics were found in 1818, some of which are preserved by our Society. Among the remainder was a large number of human bones; these were collected together, under the direction of the late Lord Nugent, and interred in Hardwick Churchyard, near the tower, within

a stone chest raised on three courses of unhewn stone, which appear at one time to have been enclosed, and the space planted with yew trees; the chest is banded together with iron, and the top secured on with eight screws. On a marble slab, about twenty-eight inches long by twenty-two inches wide, is the following inscription:—

“ Within are deposited the bones of two-hundred and  
“ forty-seven persons which were discovered A. D. 1818,  
“ buried in a field adjoining to Holman’s bridge. From  
“ the history and appearance of the place where they  
“ were found, they are concluded to be the remains of  
“ those officers and men who perished in an engagement  
“ fought A. D. 1642, between the troops of Charles the  
“ First, under the command of Prince Rupert, and the  
“ garrison who held Aylesbury for the Parliament.  
“ Enemies, from their attachment to opposite leaders and  
“ to opposite standards in the sanguinary conflicts of that  
“ civil war, they were, together victims of its fury, united  
“ in one common slaughter. They were buried in one  
“ common grave, close to the spot where they had lately  
“ stood in arms against each other.

“ May the memory of the brave be respected, and may  
“ our country never again be called to take part in con-  
“ tests such as these which this tablet records.—Erected  
“ by the late Lord Nugent.”

Thus much for the scene in front; but our business is chiefly with that in the rear, which is now called “Old Orchard Piece,” where it was customary, up to within the last thirty years, to dig for gravel on that side of the field, towards “The King’s Furlong;” and here, as might be expected, if any action had taken place, relics would be found—and so they were from time to time from the beginning of the present century. My information chiefly relates to the last find, which was by West, about the year 1830, and consisted of three halberts, of which the only remaining one will be exhibited at the next Meeting of the Society. The extreme length is eight feet six inches; the head is thirty two and a half inches long, and fastened to the staff by four screws, two only of which remain; it weighs eight pounds eleven ounces, the sides are protected by strips of iron five-eighths of an inch wide, running the whole length, and secured to the staff by thirty-nine brass-headed nails on each side: a breast-plate was also

found, and bones of horses and men. On the skeleton of one man was part of his clothing, and on that clothing two large buttons, the under sides of which were of bright gilt, while the upper or concave side was surrounded by a rim a quarter of an inch in height, which had been filled up with horn or some other perishable material; the bones were those of men of large stature—doubtless picked men to guard an important point. These bones, after lying a few days for inspection, were re-interred by Esau Chapman, on the same spot where they were discovered, viz., on the fifth land from the hedge side towards "The King's Furlong," and about eighteen inches below the surface. All the spears that have been found within the memory of any person now living, were in as perfect a condition as the one now exhibited, and of the same make. The road having been turned, this part of the field has not been again disturbed.

West is also reported to have discovered numerous coins, and I have reason to believe that most of them found their way to the smelting-pot, as they were not spoken of until several years after, lest the Lord of the Manor might have put the law of treasure trove in force, and claimed them as his own. It is certain, after this find West's circumstances materially improved.

Standing still on the same spot, but turning towards the Church, it might be supposed you would see the noble mansion of the family of the Bosses, of whom all that we now know is by the record contained in the Church, and by an annual gift to the poor; so entire a clearance has been made of the mansion, that I cannot discover any person able to give the slightest information as to the precise spot on which it stood; and the only reason I have for supposing that it stood here about is, that the Charity is paid out of the rent of this farm, and a few old trees which appear to be the remains of an orchard. There is a local tradition to the effect, "that during the civil wars a grievous outrage was committed upon a noble family in Bierton, because they were in the possession of a portrait of his Majesty King Charles the First, and refused to surrender it to the rebel soldiery!" That the Bosses' family were living here at the time is certain, and if they be the family to whom the tradition refers, then we can easily account for the disappearance of the mansion:

possibly a reference to a tract entitled "A relation of the rare exployts of the London Soldiers and Gentlemen lately gone out of the City for the designs of the King and Parliament. Hen. Elsyng Cler. Parl: D. Com. Printed for William Smith, 1642, 4to." might add to our scanty stock of information.

If we again turn to the letters of Nehemiah Wharton, we shall find that Hampden chose to desecrate the sabbath by the first array of the Buckinghamshire Militia on that day.

"In this town (Aylesbury) a pulpit was built in the market-place, where we heard two worthy sermons. Every day our soldiers by stealth doe visit Papists' houses and constraine from them both meate and money. They gave them whole greate loaves and cheeses, which they triumphantly carry away on the point of their swords."

I would here observe, that when the Roundheads use the word "Papist," they do not refer to members of the Romish Church, but speak this in contempt of the Protestant Church of England.

Doubtless it was on this trying occasion that the Rev. Joseph Bird rendered that act of service and loyalty to his Sovereign Lord the King, intimated in the Register; and a reference to "Walker's Sufferings of the Clergy" might enable us to determine the nature of the service so rendered; but for the reason already specified I cannot furnish it on this occasion. Whatever it might be, it caused his sequestration. The following year he was superceded by Brion Emmot, during whose Incumbency the following entries occur in the Parish Register:—

"Given out of the Gifts Stock to Naboth Stepney, a minister in Sussex, 2s."

"John, the son of Alice Amosel, born the 5th of October, illegitimate, she having the 7th day of November made public confession before the congregation."

"1654.—William Stratfold, the son of Samuel Stratfold, of Broughton, and Margaret Hawkins, were both married on Monday, ye 8th of January, at Broughton, by Justice Hill, and Mr. Emmot, minister."

This is the only instance recorded of a marriage by a Justice of the Peace, and in a private house.

My notice of these scenes of conflict ends for the present in the hamlet of Broughton, where in a direct line for

North Marston we meet with fields bearing warlike names—"Callage," "Callage Corner," "Callage Meadow." According to Edward Coles, who compiled a Dictionary of old and obsolete words, in 1717, "Call" signifies bravery; if we connect this with "Thorost" or "Thorock," which by the same author denominates "Heaps," as the "Thorocks" are in the immediate vicinity to the Callege, I think we may infer that in the one a desperate effort was made, great feats of valour accomplished, and a multitude of the slain were buried in those heaps of the other, which the cultivation of the soil has now removed.

It has been objected to this theory that the names of fields are usually older than 200 years—granted; but the instances of fields changing their names in this parish are numerous. "Goodson's" has already been noticed; "Corbet's Piece" and "Gile Lane" are names not yet a century old, and will form the subject of another paper; and "Dockman" has been changed into "Idle Piece" within the present generation.

I would also remark, that the absence of nearly every object of known Archæological interest in this parish is to be accounted for by the fact, that during the time the Rev. Thomas Smith was Vicar of this parish, his son begged or bought up all he could find, and on removing, after his father's death, carried all away. I may, perhaps, on a future day be enabled to glean some information respecting other fields, called "The Rue," "Heeles," "Paradise," and "The Hâms."

C. P. A.

#### ANCIENT ARMOUR.

In the old Mansion of Ethorpe, the seat of the Dormer Family, was a room called the Armory, which was hung round with specimens of ancient armour and weapons. When the house was pulled down in 1810, the contents of the armory were sold by auction, but probably were chiefly purchased by inhabitants of the County. The old Manor House at Chenies, long the residence of the Russell family, had also a room appropriated to the same purpose, but what has become of the specimens it contained is not known. Portions of armour are also often found in Churches. Thus at the present time, it is believed, there are two or three helmets in the Church at Clifton Keynes; a breast-plate of the 17th century in the Church at Drayton Beauchamp; and in the Church at Chalfont St. Peter's, "a copper helmet is deposited in a cupboard under the gallery staircase, which prior to the *beautifying* the Church in 1822, was suspended on an iron bracket with a bit of rag as it then looked." The sword of Sir Marmaduke Darel is still preserved in the Church at Fulmer, which was built by him in 1610; and doubtless there are various specimens in many other Churches.

A complete List of such specimens of Armour, still existing in the County, would be a most useful document to many Members of our Society, and such a list might easily be prepared if each Member, who knows of the existence of any, would send a description of it to any of the Secretaries.

W. H. K.

\* NOTES AND QUERIES, May 18th, 1850.

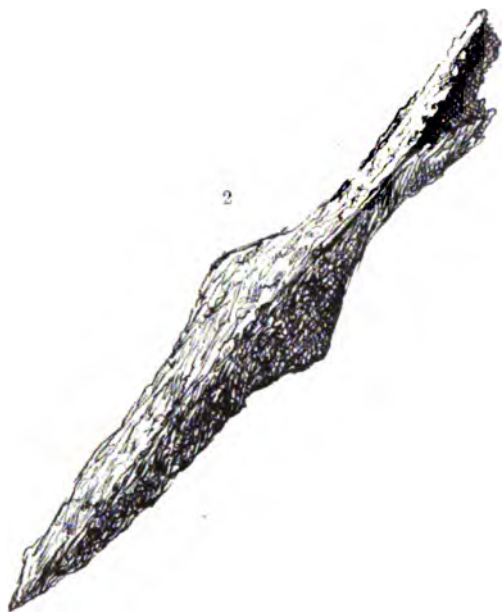
## RELICS FOUND AT TYTHROP HOUSE.

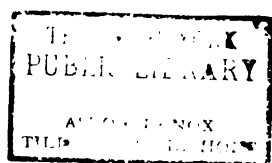
THAME, Dec. 15, 1859.

MY DEAR SIR,

I send you Drawings of some Antiquities found in the grounds near Tythrop House, adjoining Thame Field. I request the Association to accept them, if thought worth having.

Last spring Herbert Wykeham, Esq., of Tythrop House, did me the favour to send for my inspection some relics which had been found in digging out some rabbits, at the extreme western end of Kingsey, in which locality I doubt not much now remains behind. They consisted of two funereal urns, containing portions of bones and skulls, which I did not see, as they had been deposited in the Churchyard previously to bide their time. There was a copper coin of the Emperor Hadrian, sent with them, which Mr. W. told me was in one of the urns—if so, it would most likely determine the bones, &c. to be of Roman or Anglo-Roman deposit, but I am not sure—a sight of the bones of the cranium might have settled the question. The urns were neatly made of dark burned clay, each worked in a different pattern (see the accompanying sketch), and as marked on the drawing, each six and a half inches high, and twenty inches round the swell. A spear-head of seven inches in length, much corroded, retaining a portion where the handle was inserted. A very curious and peculiar oval metal ornament, with a ring to suspend it, representing a winged cupid bearing a sheaf of corn on the left shoulder, and a reaping-hook in the right hand, apparently as returning from his labours—over the right shoulder a narrow belt. I do not recollect ever having seen a trophy of corn, borne by the little god. Perhaps some of our Members may enlighten us on the subject. It is greatly to be desired that Mr. W. would make more research, as doubtless it would repay the trouble. It is not at all improbable, that taking the character of the soil into consideration, and the running stream just below, dividing Thame Field from the Tythrop demesne, a Roman Villa might be dropt on, it being just the kind of spot often chosen by the Romans. The dagger was found in another part of





Kingsey Field; it is now seventeen inches long, and much corroded—has been a very elegant piece of workmanship, highly decorated; I presume about the period of Henry Fourth or Fifth.

I have in my collection a British Celt, found in Thame Field, close to the bank of Cuttle Brook, by Bates Leys. The labourer who found it was digging peat to burn into ash for manure, the ground around being boggy. I had also a gold coin of the Emperor Honorius, found on a piece of land of my own. Near it was a gold ring, of much later date, the armorial bearing marking it as having belonged to the Barrows' family, who possessed land in Thame, and still do in the adjoining parts of Sydenham. I do not know into whose hands this has fallen. I had also another gold coin of the Emperor Valentinian the First, found on Pegg's Farm, in the parish of Haseley, in equally good preservation, perfect as when coined. Not having any collection of Roman gold coins myself, I gave them to Lord Mark Kerr, who was a collector.

Very truly yours,

HARRY LUPTON.

To the Rev. CHARLES LOWNDES.

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### SWAN UPPING OR HOPPING.

By aid of the Losley MSS. we learn that the above custom was the taking up of swans upon rivers for the purpose of affixing marks to their beaks. Its superintendence was intrusted to a person officially appointed Master of the Swans, who in the reign of Queen Elizabeth was Sir William More, then owner of Losley. Among the MSS. there has been found "An original roll of swan marks," showing the beaks of the swans to have been notched with stars, chevrons, crosses, the initials of the owner's names, or other devices. Thus in the roll are given the marks used for the swans of Lord William Howard, Lord Buckhurst, Sir Henry Weston, Francis Carew, William More, and other principal residents in Surrey; likewise the marks of the Dyers' and Vintners' Companies, who to this day keep swans upon the Thames.\*

CITY PRESS.

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\* The above note illustrates what has already been given on the same subject in the RECORDS, Vol. I. 245.

## PROCEEDINGS OF THE SOCIETY.

JULY 17TH, 1860.—The Annual Meeting was held in the Assembly Rooms of the Swan Hotel, Newport Pagnell, on Tuesday, July 17th, and two following days. This is the first time the Society has visited this part of the County since its formation, Nov. 16, 1847. A Local Committee was formed, consisting of forty-nine influential Gentlemen in the neighbourhood; the Rev. C. G. HULTON, J. PALMER, Esq., and the Rev. H. ROUNDALL, acting as Local Secretaries. The Committee issued a Programme of the Proceedings, with a Circular requesting the co-operation of parties with their efforts for the formation of a temporary Museum, by the loan of Articles in any of the following departments:—British, Roman, or Saxon Antiquities; as Coins, Arms, Articles of Domestic use, Glass or Pottery: Mediæval; as Coins, Ecclesiastical and Military Works, Heraldry, Works of Decorative Art, and miscellaneous Works: and objects of Natural History, and Curiosities of any description. This appeal was readily responded to by fifty-seven contributors, thirty-three of whom are Members of the Society; and the thanks of the Society are greatly due to these Gentlemen for their kindness in so readily and willingly sending their Articles for exhibition. The Local Secretaries, for several days previous to the Meeting, were busily engaged in fitting up the temporary Museum, and arranging in classical order the large collection of rare and valuable Specimens which had been kindly lent for the occasion. An ample descriptive Catalogue\* was published of all the articles exhibited, with a list of the contributors. The Museum contained, besides the presentations to the Society at this Meeting recorded in this account and the Society's usual articles of exhibition, a large collection of Brass Rubbings and Inscriptions, fifty-two in number; some good Drawings of Frescoes in Lathbury and Broughton Churches; several Books of an early date, amongst them five Missals of the Thirteenth, Fourteenth, and Fifteenth Centuries, contributed from the collection of the Rev. T. Wilton, to whom the Society is indebted for the loan of many valuable antiquities; a Manuscript Bible given to the Chancel of Buckingham Church in 1471, and a Latin Bible of the same version, printed at Venice in 1494; a very large Collection of Coins in gold, silver, and copper, many of them of ancient date, but in a good state of preservation; many fine specimens of Pottery; a magnificent Cabinet Collection of British Butterflies, all captured in England, exhibited by the Rev. H. Burney; many Ancient Relics dug up in various parts of the County; Fossils; Stuffed Birds, &c. &c. Some of the articles unfortunately arrived too late to be inserted in the Catalogue, and among them were a Roman Cameo, Venetian Chain Works, Egyptian Font (representing the Baptism of John in Limoges Enamel Maltese work), two Roman Æs, Roman Cameo, Egyptian Lamp, Persian Inkhorn, Specimen of Indian Inlaid Work (exhibited by the Rev. W. L. Lawson), Tiles from the Old House at Weston (exhibited by Mr. Shepherd), Curious Old Lock

\* Some of the Catalogues still remain on hand, and may be purchased at 6d. each of the Honorary Secretaries; or of Mr. Croydon, Newport Pagnell.

made at Birmingham, probably in the early part of the Seventeenth Century (exhibited by Mr. Shepherd), Bedouin Household Gods brought from Egypt by Sir R. Bickerton (exhibited by Mrs. Dunsford). The Museum formed a most interesting and attractive collection, and added much to the interest which was excited in the town and neighbourhood by the visit of the Society.

The Chair was taken by C. G. Du PRAE, Esq., M.P., one of the Vice-Presidents of the Society; among the company present were:—Sir H. Verney, Bart., M.P.; Rev. C. Lowndes, Rev. H. Roundell, and Rev. C. G. Hulton, Local Secretaries. Rev. W. England, Rev. E. Hill, Rev. W. Tomkins, Rev. John Randolph, Rev. C. S. Lowndes, Rev. John Benthall, Rev. J. P. Langley, Rev. John Athawes, Rev. Joseph Tarver, Rev. W. Jcudwine, Rev. W. Bennett, Rev. H. Bull, Rev. M. A. Nicholson, Rev. J. Webb, Rev. M. Farrell, Rev. G. Morley, Rev. W. L. Lawson, S. Newman, Esq.; J. B. Gray, Esq.; G. H. Haslop, Esq., M.D.; G. Cooch, Esq.; W. Levi, Esq.; R. S. Lowndes, Esq.; E. W. S. Lowndes, Esq.; J. C. Maul, Esq. A large number of Ladies also graced the Meeting by their presence, among whom were Mrs. C. S. Lowndes and Misses Lowndes, Mrs. H. Bull, Mrs. Newman, Mrs. W. Whitworth, Mrs. Tarver, Mrs. Welton, Mrs. J. C. Maul, Mrs. Hill, Mrs. Hulton, Mrs. Hale, &c. &c.

An excellent Luncheon was provided for the Members of the Society and their Friends at half-past one o'clock. The company after partaking of this repast proceeded to the Museum, which was admirably arranged by the Local Committee for the inspection of the various Articles exhibited, and for the purposes of the Annual Meeting. At three o'clock, the hour announced in the Programme, the business of the Annual Meeting commenced.

C. G. Du PRAE, Esq., M.P., rose and said he was glad to know that the advantages to be derived from the study of Archæology were so generally appreciated as to render it needless for him to detain the company by a long opening speech, for, though deeply interested in Archæological matters, his acquaintance with these subjects was so superficial that he could not pretend to instruct the Gentlemen he saw around him. Still, he had accepted with great diffidence the invitation to preside, because it might serve as an expression of his interest in these studies, and also because it gave him an opportunity of visiting his friends at Newport, among whom he had always met with the most friendly reception. He was glad to be able to congratulate the Society on the state of its Funds, and the increase of its Members. He trusted that all who joined the Society would feel bound to communicate any information which might come in their way with reference to their own neighbourhoods. He was glad also that the Society had assumed somewhat of a peripatetic character. If they should come into his own neighbourhood (Beaconsfield), they would find the tombs of the Wallers and the Burkes, and there were certain circumstances connected with the burial of the last named great statesman, which, if not taken up by a Society like the present, might perhaps soon pass into oblivion. That great statesman was so embued with a dread of revolution and revolutionists that he entertained a fear lest his bones should be taken up by some of them; he refused to be buried in a leaden coffin, and the rector, on examining the locality lately, found the ground broken up, and the bones scattered about the grave. Should the Society visit Beaconsfield, they would perhaps agree with him that the Church which has been built in the neighbourhood at an expense of something like £10,000, is a most serious retrograde step in Ecclesiastical Architecture—namely, the new Church at Gerrard's Cross. It is in a Pseudo-

Byzantine style, and if half the cost had been expended on a building on the improved Gothic principles, which had recently become so fully recognised, a result much more in keeping with the spirit of the age, and the requirements of the village Church, would have been produced. He would only further express his gratification at seeing so many of the fair sex present at this gathering, and his hope that the Society would be eminently successful in promoting a spirit of inquiry into those subjects to which its attention was particularly directed.

The name of J. C. Hubbard, Esq., M.P., was, on the recommendation of the Committee, added to the list of Vice-Presidents, and the Officers and Committee were re-elected *pro forma*.

The Secretary (Rev. C. Lowndes) then read a List of Sixty-one new Members who, according to the Rules of the Society, had been proposed and seconded at Committee Meetings, and were recommended for election. They were unanimously elected; and their names are included in the List of Members published in this Number of the RECORDS.

The Secretary read the Report of the Auditors for the previous year, by which it appeared that the total receipts amounted to £52. 1s. 1½d., and the expenditure to £52. 6s. 0d., leaving a balance against the Treasurer of 4s. 10½d. On the motion of the Rev. W. L. Lawson, the Report was unanimously adopted.

The Secretary then read the List of Articles recently presented to the Society.

Two Roman Urns, pieces of several ditto, a Fibula, Head of Roman Spear, two small Daggers, Iron Ornament, part of a Mediæval Brooch, and a Mediæval Key.—By H. Wykeham, Esq., Tythrop Park.

Two Roman Urns, one Roman Coin, and five English Coins, found at Terrick.—By Mr. J. S. Stone.

Analysis of Gothic Architecture, 16 Parts.—By Rev. R. S. Ferris.

A British Celt, found in Thame Field; the bottom of a Samian Urn, found at Muswell Hill; Rings, found in a Funereal Urn at Crendon; the Great Royal Seal of Queen Elizabeth, granting Land *in capite* to — Mollines or Mullins, Aston Mullins.—By H. Lupton, Esq.

Seal of Syon Abbey.—By Rev. H. Roundell.

Battle Axe.—By the Rev. H. Bull.

On the motion of the Rev. W. TOMKINS, the thanks of the Society were tendered to the several donors.

The Rev. C. LOWNDES having remarked that in consequence of a family affliction Vice-Admiral Smyth, whose name had been announced in the Programme as the reader of a Paper, was prevented attending the Meeting, read a letter from him on "A Doubled-faced Brass in Stone Church; with a few general remarks on the Desecration and Robberies of Churches." As this Letter will be published in the next number of the RECORDS, it is unnecessary to give any account of its contents.

Sir HARRY VERNET, Bart., M.P., moved that the thanks of the Meeting be tendered to Vice-Admiral Smyth for this communication, with the request that he will allow it to be published in the transactions of the Society. Every one must see that a great deal of valuable information is being brought to light every year, which will be lost unless gathered into some focus like that afforded by this Society. Information of this, as of other kinds, was gradually extending even to the

humblest class. It was a talent committed to each of us, like any other kind of knowledge, and those gentlemen who contributed to its diffusion were really contributing to the improvement and elevation of society.

The vote having been seconded, and put by the Chairman, was unanimously carried.

The Rev. C. G. HULTON then read a Paper on "Lavendon," from the first institution of the Abbey, which was of the Premonstratensian order, in the time of Henry II., down to the present time; also a Paper on "Tickford," which was a Monastery of the Cluniac order, founded in the time of William the Conqueror.

On the motion of the Rev. John Randolph, seconded by the Rev. W. L. Lawson, the thanks of the Meeting were tendered to Mr. Hulton, with a request for the publication of the Papers.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman, proposed by the Rev. W. Tomkins, seconded by the Rev. W. L. Lawson, terminated the proceedings for the day.

On Wednesday, at noon, the Museum was re-opened, and the room not being over crowded, as on the previous day, ample opportunity was afforded for inspecting the articles exhibited.

In the evening, before the time announced for the reading of the Papers, a large audience was present in the Museum, and after the Chair had been taken by the vicar of Newport, the Rev. G. Morley, Mr. Grindon read a Paper written by Mr. Storer, on "Olney." A conversation followed by J. Palmer Esq., the Rev. H. Bull, the Rev. J. Turner, and Mr. Storer, which concluded by a unanimous vote of thanks to the lecturer.

The Rev. C. G. HULTON, rector of Emberton, then read an interesting Paper, written by the Rev. W. Hastings Kelke, on "Filgrave Church."

A vote of thanks was awarded to the writer of the Paper, and the proceedings were further adjourned until the following day.

On Thursday the Society's visit was brought to a termination. The Museum was opened in the morning, and in the evening, the Chair being taken by the Rev. H. Bull, the Rev. H. Roundell, Vicar of Buckingham, read a Paper on "The Newport Garrison in the Civil Wars."

J. PALMER, Esq., in a complimentary speech, proposed that a vote of thanks be given to the Rev. H. Roundell for his very able and interesting Paper, and in the course of his remarks, spoke highly of the great exertions and time given by the Local Secretaries in the formation and arrangement of the Museum. Mr. W. H. Bull seconded the resolution.

The Chairman, after having received a vote of thanks for his kindness in presiding, took occasion to express, on the part of himself and friends residing in the town and neighbourhood of Newport, their deep sense of the kindness of those Members of the Society, and other contributors who had so liberally sent their valuable articles for exhibition. He also expressed his gratitude to those gentlemen who had contributed Papers, and to the Local Secretaries for the great trouble they had taken in getting up the Meeting.

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# ARCHITECTURAL AND ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY FOR THE COUNTY OF BUCKINGHAM.

## ABSTRACT OF ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31<sup>st</sup>, 1859.

### Receipts.

	£	s.	d.
Balance in the Treasurer's hands.....	25	15	1½
Subscriptions for the Year 1859 .....	15	10	0
Arrears of Subscriptions, and in advance .....	10	2	0
By Sale of "Records" .....	0	14	0
Balance .....	0	4	10½

£52 6 0

### Payments.

	£	s.	d.
Three Years' Subscription to the Archæological Institute .....	3	3	0
Whymper & Co., for a Wood Engraving .....	4	10	0
H. Cowell, for Anastatic Printing .....	5	1	6
J. Ivatts, for One Year's Rent of Room, due at Michaelmas .....	12	12	0
J. Pickburn (on account), for Printing & Stationery .....	15	0	0
Purchase of Books .....	4	5	6
Map of Bucks .....	0	15	0
Postage Stamps .....	3	3	2
Parcels and Envelopes .....	0	17	6
Expenses attending the Annual Meeting at the White Hart, Aylesbury .....	1	5	10
Advertisements .....	1	12	6

£52 6 0

Examined, Audited, and compared with the Vouchers.

AYLESBURY, MAY, 1860.

Z. D. HUNT, }  
ARTHUR ISHAM, }  
Auditors.

LETTER FROM VICE-ADMIRAL W. H. SMYTH, ON A  
"DOUBLE-FACED" BRASS IN STONE CHURCH; WITH A  
FEW GENERAL REMARKS ON THE DESECRATION AND  
ROBBERIES IN SACRED EDIFICES.

*St. John's Lodge, 10—7—'60.*

MY DEAR SIR,

An antiquarian acquaintance, who had seen my notice of the Hedgerley palimpsest Brass (*Records of Buckinghamshire, Vol. II., page 17*), thinks that I might also have made mention of a similar relic in my own immediate neighbourhood, namely, one in the ancient Church at Stone which was excellently lithographed, and widely distributed by the Rev. J. B. Reade, the Vicar, a few years ago: it was accompanied by a representation of the circular Norman font, curiously sculptured in low relief of somewhat unusual character, consisting of interlaced squares and circles, with various fishes, animals; and strange devices introduced in the intervening spaces, and two human figures holding weapons.

In reply to this charge I observed, that there was no parity in the examples: by the word palimpsest is strictly understood a sort of parchment from which whatever was inscribed thereon might be erased, so as to admit of its being written on anew, the precise sense being *repeatedly prepared for writing upon*. From Cicero's letter to Trebatius (*Ad Fam. VII. 18*), we find that it was an ancient practice; but the wide re-introduction of the term (*παλινψηστος*) was by the celebrated Angelo Mai, in his sagacious gleanings among the old manuscripts of the Vatican Library; and especially in his discovery of the long lost books of Cicero's treatise *De Reipublica*, about forty years ago. Sometimes the readings on the front and the back related to different periods; and by transferring such an incident from the parchment to brass, the designation has obtained, of which the Hedgerley instance is a notable specimen in point. The two faces, however, of the monumental tablet in Stone Church are altogether different in style and intention from palimpsests, since they vary but little in age, and not at all in execution. The upper

one is inscribed to Thomas Gorney and his Wife in the year 1520, while the under surface is to the memory of Christopher Tharpe. Now this latter, though a whole line is lost from the brass having been shortened, bears characters and phraseology so similar to Gorney's, as to make it clear that the dates of both must be nearly contemporaneous—though certainly those on the Tharpe side from being rather coarser, would seem to be a little—and very little—older.

This brings us upon a point which, to unpractised eyes, would appear to be an insuperable obstacle; namely, the recovery of the second date—Tharpe's death—in order to confirm or repulse conjecture. Now we are free to confess that in the instance before us, at a first glimpse, there seemed to be but little clue, the vestiges of another line to the epitaph being so slight as hardly to arrest notice. But where there are marks there is hope. The monumental inscriptions of the time in question were incised with a mannerism for conveying information in a brief and conventional form; and they were generally so worded that there was no great or conflicting variety either in their object or meaning—names and dates being the principal distinctive differences. This was eminently the case during the latter part of the mediæval ages, insomuch that on marbles where words had been abraded, the *absentees* could be readily restored—under able readers—by means of those in preservation: and so fragments of letters can be put into their pristine form and arrangement, by a careful and proportionate estimate of their several parts. Thus the last line in the case before us, on the undermost inscription, as just stated, having been cut away—perhaps to shape the upper face to order—is not so readily made out: but by a scrupulous comparison of the few bits or tops of the letters accidentally left by the cutter, with those on the upper lines, under the critical tutelage of my friend Mr. John Williams, we gather that Christopher Tharpe died on the 28th of September, 1514. Now during the six elapsed years, it is more reasonable to suppose that the tablet had remained in the workman's shop unpaid for, than that it was so soon torn from the tombstone. However, here we submit the two inscriptions for the reader's own unravelment, with our assumed restoration of the missing line in open characters:—

THE UPPER INSCRIPTION.

Here lyeth Thomas Gower & Anne his wife which thoms  
died the viij day of may. Anno dñi 1555. On the southe side of the

ON THE UNDER SIDE.

Reste chace pray for the soule of xpofer Thome  
whiche dced the xxvij day of September y<sup>e</sup> viij  
of Edward<sup>6</sup> xij. Da. So hole soule in have wir

In those troublous and detestable times—the civil wars of the Roses—instances of this kind were very frequent: a brass might be ordered for one of the red side, but before it could be supplied by the maker, the property of the ordering party might be estreated, and the artist having the plate left on his hand, would brush it up afresh for any one of the white division. In like manner, it must be repeated, in the instance before us—though cast in more stable times—the dates of the two inscriptions being so near each other, renders the supposition that the earlier one was never set up, almost a certainty. Moreover it is well known that certain worthy persons had brasses prepared during their life-time, and under their own direction, with blanks left for the date of decease: and such spaces are found still remaining, since too often it happened that no one was forthcoming who cared to fill them in.

In these strictures, it should be observed that by the term “brass,” antiquaries mean a commemorative record of a person or persons—sometimes the tribute of a parish or of individuals to worth and merit, but more frequently family tokens. In either case we can rely pretty confidently on the good faith with which they exhibit the names and dates relative to the defunct; but the suspicion of palimpsest, or even double-face, has considerably shaken a portion of the reliance upon identity, and opened a road to mere inference. It is true that for verifying epochs brasses display all the varieties of male costume—ecclesiastic, knightly, academic, and civil—while those sacred to Ladies shew costly robes, pearl embroidery, and vestments powdered with ornaments so extravagantly as to prove that fashion then, as now, entertains no sympathy with taste: but the meddling with monuments thus complained of weakens faith—since the vital essence which renders history valuable is TRUTH, of which the mainspring is a free discussion of all reliable means—nor does she even despise the evidence to be drawn from vain marbles. This however does not interdict the exercise of scepticism on costly preservatives of infamous characters: every inducted son of Linus will agree with Bishop Hall, that—

Small honour can be got with gaudie grave,  
A rotten name from death it cannot save:  
The fairer tombe, the fouler is thy name,  
The greater pompe procuring greater shame.

Yet under all the disadvantages, there is a mine of in-

formation to be still worked in our monumental remains ; and surely every good subject ought to be interested in the preservation of all the memorials of our illustrious dead, for the satisfaction and instruction of the living. Unhappily this has not been the case, especially in recent times ; and although we must angrily deplore the wanton mutilations of consecrated places, and the desecration of Churches, by the puritanical hordes of Cromwell, we are wrong in supposing that they were the only Vandals who injured our country, and tarnished its character by such spoliation. Ignorance and prejudice, to be sure, may have been more to blame than malice prepense or desire of gain, but in either case the motive can be no palliation of the public injury. Even in our own tolerant times, what flagrant assaults (*archæologically speaking*) have been waged against public decency and feeling by men of respectability and pretension to good education. In my last letter I alluded to the wanton destruction of the Felbrigge\* monument at Playford, an act which a valued correspondent informs me was "perpetrated by the *ipsis manibus* of two clergymen—no ploughman, street-sweeper, or marine-store dealer, would have done such a thing." And in a recent letter from Mr. Albert Way, that energetic antiquary says—"When I offered, some twelve or fifteen years ago, to have the figure and canopy of the founder of Playford Church, which had been most violently torn from its resting place, made good at my own expense, the incumbent declined to permit anything of the kind to be done." The excuse was truly iconoclastic, that "if the brass of Sir George were fixed up in the Chancel, it would distract the attention of his hearers during the service !" Were not the bellicose Lion and Unicorn of the Royal Arms, liable to this barbarous objection ?

It will readily be conceded that many Churches have been exceedingly well attended to—as Cockayne Hatley in Bedfordshire, St. Mary's in Warwick, and a few others—but they almost form exceptions to the general rule : instances of callous neglect, or reckless remodelling, are common over the length and breadth of the land, to an extent

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\* Sir George Felbrigge, founder of the Church, was Esquire of the body to Edward III. He was Knighted in the Scotch wars in 1385, and died in 1400.

which would astonish the respective actors themselves. Two or three unquestionable facts will illustrate this: and the deeds, without perpetrator's names, will show that personality is not the object of our remarks.

In a later letter to me, Mr. Way observes—"loose broken brasses in Church chests, are very apt to go astray. I made a long pilgrimage to Mildenhall, Suffolk, in 1836. There was a noble brass there of life size, which I knew only by the drawings of Mr. Kerrich, now in the British Museum. To my vexation, the sexton only produced the feet—a fine pair of sollerets resting on a lion. He assured me that he had seen the head, and another piece about twenty inches long, within two months—but he supposed the ringers had stolen it, or that some gentleman from the 'Great House' who had been looking at the head, had taken a fancy to it. Had this grand figure been fixed anywhere, or even screwed up against the wall, it had not thus fared with one of the most curious engraved memorials in the Eastern Counties. It seems to have been perfect in 1829." Another intelligent correspondent, Mr. H. W. King, in a letter of last September, is indignant at the spoliation which the Churches in Essex have undergone; in one of which, Downham, he actually saw a fine old helmet—torn apparently from Judge Rainsford's tomb—being used as a mortar hod. He endeavoured to raise a hue-and-cry respecting the robbery of brasses from Chingford Church, also, about two years ago: and his wrath is both warmly and justly excited by the treatment of the mortuary memorials of Admiral Haddock and his family at Leigh. This is the more galling, as my late worthy friend Admiral Otway, passing the spot and seeing the monumental tablet of so celebrated a brother-officer lying in fragments, requested it might be replaced at his cost; but it was not done. On this insult to the meritorious dead, Mr. King thus indignantly perorates:—

"We have traced the Haddock family, with some interruptions, from the reign of Edward III., till the commencement of the XIXth century. For nearly five hundred years the successive descendants have been born at Leigh, and their remains have found a last resting-place in that Church and the Church-yard. We may well believe that, irrespectively of the feeling which has induced men in all times and all nations, to desire that their bones should rest 'in the sepulchre of their fathers,' the Haddocks might very naturally wish that their remains should repose among a seafaring people, by the sea side, and upon an eminence overlooking the ocean, upon which they had passed the greater part of their lives, and

upon which they had won renown. But their sepulchral memorials have well nigh perished. The most antient monument does not now cover the bodies of those whose names it commemorates ; and while the destroying hand of time has nearly obliterated the inscriptions upon the vaults, the ruder and more destructive hand of man has demolished the mural tablet intended as a more especial, prominent, and enduring memorial of one who had conferred much honour upon his native place and county, and served his country with fidelity and bravery."

We need not, however, travel quite so far as Essex for examples of the non-conservation which is here deplored. Having lately read a statement in the work called "England Displayed," published in 1769, that many curious coins and medals, dug out of the ruins of old Verulam, were to be seen in St. Alban's Abbey Church, I was particularly desirous of ascertaining whether any evidences of Cunobeline or Offa were among them. I therefore lost no time in delaying to consult my friend the Rev. Dr. Nicholson, Rector of the Abbey Church, on the subject. In a prompt reply, that excellent antiquary observes—"I well remember, fifty to fifty-five years ago, that there were several coins—keys—spurs—a chalice taken out of a coffin, &c., which were in one of the lockers in the presbitery of our Abbey Church ; but which have all, with the exception of the spur, disappeared. The spur is from Key Field, where one of our two great battles between York and Lancaster took place. And nothing less could result from the circumstance that, for years, the shewing of the Church was the perquisite of the clerk, who frequently sent his little fag of a boy to attend the visitors." And while speaking of our immediate neighbours, it must not be forgotten that the astute authorities of Luton wilfully melted down their old epitaphial metals for the construction of a new chandelier—the which saith Gough, the feeling narrator, was a "cruel thing." Well may the axiom obtain, that literary records are more durable than monuments of marble or brass !

Every man of wholesome principle warmly regards his *natale solum*, whether it be in torrid, temperate, or arctic climes ; a feeling which combines some of the best affections of human nature. Indeed a strong local interest naturally attaches itself to every habitat, whether fertile or sterile ; for even the Laplander supposes the bleak district of his birth may have been the site of the Garden of Eden—and so it is written. In recognition therefore of so

pleasing an attachment to birth-place, the leading object of Provincial Societies is to enhance that interest by a careful preservation of its memorials, and disengaging its recollections from doubt. Such is, and ought heretofore to have been, an acknowledged duty; and although much may yet be done in so good a cause, the delay has been hopelessly ruinous. It is true that we have had many excellent conservators and topographers, whose doings evince both diligence and taste; yet it is patent that apathy and neglect have been stalking about unmolested, to the premature loss of monuments and muniments, and the degradation of tradition by ignorance. A spirit at present, however, is abroad, which may arrest the further progress of this disreputable evil: and I again insist, that an organic fulcrum of truth will be found in placing greater responsibility on our parish magnates. Nor would such a step be difficult, since all might readily be effected by the Churchwarden under the eye of the Incumbent; and when once adopted, could be very easily continued. All sculpture, brasses, records, books, registers, arms, relics, and paintings—whether on stucco, wood, canvas, copper, or glass—should be borne on charge by each successive individual, under a stock-taking survey: and a further measure of securing them from danger, and foiling the robbers of the dead, will be found in collecting accurate drawings, plans, and descriptions thereof. Good rubbings of all remarkable inscriptions should be taken, in preference to transcribing them, since there never can be correct copying of such memorials by passing the matter to be copied through the mind. It were also well, if manageable, to institute a due supervision of funereal emblems and epitaphs; in order that the nuisance of turgid little monsters and risible rhymes may be abated.

But it is not parish officials alone who ought to be blamed, for the public in general have manifested a stolid indifference the while; and in some individuals this has been carried to an amount almost criminal. For example, about thirty years ago, when a worthy friend of mine was directing some repairs in Turvey Church, on the confines of this county, he wrote to the representative of the Mordaunt property (*honours*?) respecting the fine family tombs there,—Sir John and the three first Barons, with the gallant Earl of Peterborough, two of whom repose under

rich open canopies, supported by columns of the Doric order. To this courteous and obliging application, Mr. Higgins received for answer (*piget meminisse*), that he might mend the roads with them! And who can tell how the earnest intreaty now in hand, begging the "improvers" to spare Guesten Hall, that very valuable memorial of ancient hospitality at Worcester, will be met!—Be it again remembered that it is the measures, not the men, of which we are speaking.

These exposures relate to places beyond our borders; but have the Buckinghamshire authorities done their duty any better? The late shameful demolition of Quarrendon Chapel and its interesting historiological monuments, as well as the existing state of many local structures, and the apathetical neglect of our vetustæ, form a disagreeable reply to that question. Not only has there been a laxity in the higher administrative departments, but the deputy-assistant officials—even to vergers and sextons—have so slumbered at their posts, that the sacrilegious pilferer has broken the VIIIth commandment in open day, and committed his depredations with comparative impunity. It is not that books and brasses only have unwarrantably disappeared, but old arms and armour—as helmets, corslets, spears, swords, suits of mail, hauberks, and other relics—deposited piously in Churches for conservation, have mostly found their course to the knick-nackaterian shops of London. Mr. Albert Way, who is a diligent cruizer through that noted mart, Wardour-street, was credibly informed that a great proportion of the articles here exhibited for sale, had been supplied by chapmen from the Buckinghamshire Churches, while those sacred fanes were being repaired, or rather "done up." A relic-loving friend, at once a literary veteran and an elder in the F. S. A. corps, has the walls of a staircase decorated with sepulchral brasses. Assuredly this is blameable: though a man of unimpeachable integrity in general dealings himself, he ought to have been aware that he bought them of those who unquestionably must have obtained such relics with the left hand—caitiffs who got them by means "not worshipful." This is saying the least of such dealings morally, but the legal axiom as to receiver and supplier expresses the matter more pointedly.

Now and then—albeit very rarely—it is ordered other-

wise ; for I have heard of a votive sword being replaced in a Church near Aylsham, in Norfolk, after having been absent without leave for a considerable time : and my earnest correspondent Mr. H. W. King, in a letter dated the 23rd of last month, says—"The engraving I send herewith represents a magnificent though sadly mutilated brass effigy, about life size, which I fortunately discovered and recovered in the year 1854, after it had been lost thirty years or more. It exhibits Sir John Gifford, who was buried in Bowers-Gifford Church, in the Essex Marshes, A. D. 1348. I first learned of its existence from Dr. Salmon's *History of Essex*, published in 1740 ; and I also found a notice of it in a manuscript in the Lansdowne library (*circa temp. Eliz.*). On enquiry I found one person who had seen it in situ ; but, for the space of ten years, I could gain no further tidings of it. I subsequently ascertained that it had been actually GIVEN AWAY by the Churchwarden of the parish, there being a resident Rector at the time the sacrilegious robbery was perpetrated. The individual to whom it was thus made over, was the Lord of the Manor, who lived some sixteen miles away. On application to this gentleman, he immediately restored the spoil ; and I regard it as a most fortunate circumstance that it fell into such hands, for had it been left to the tender mercies of the Churchwarden, I dare say it would have found its way into the melting-pot. I believe that this fine specimen of military panoply, in the best period of mediæval art, is now securely preserved in the hands of the present rector ; and it will be described in the forthcoming "*Monumental Brasses of England*, by the Rev. Herbert Haines." This account is the more gratifying, inasmuch as it so seldom happens that lost or stolen things of the kind are ever restored to their proper places. We have happily, however, another instance which is even now in the course of operation, and is at once meritorious and graceful : on the 30th of last March, the following advertisement was published :—

TO THE EDITOR OF THE LEICESTER JOURNAL.

SIR,—Can any of your readers inform me where the brass, with the inscription given below, is taken from ? I found it on a broker's stall in our market a few weeks ago ; and should be happy to restore it to its legitimate locality.

Your's respectfully,

THOS. F. SARSON.

Here lyeth bvyryed Ye bodie of Rob.  
 Le Grys Esqr. sometimes Lord and Pa-  
 tron of this CHVRCH, sone to Christo-  
 pher Le Grys Esqr. He marriede Svsan,  
 Daughter & Coheir to Tho. Ayre Esqr,  
 by whom he had isawe Christopher.  
 Dyed the 9th of Febrvarie, 158—

The last figure in the year is too much defaced to be distinguished.

That the desecration of many Churches of this interesting county is as much assignable to parochial negligence and individual cupidity as to any other cause, or causes, is admitted by their historian, the Rev. W. H. Kelke—in the narratives recently published in our RECORDS. There has been, assuredly, a greedy removal of sepulchral relics and other memorials during the repairs of sacred edifices; nor has the marauding appetite even yet been satiated. In the church of this parish—Stone—a number of graven brasses having become loose, were piled up against the wall of the vestry-room; but the present clerk told me that “after the new roof was put on, he never saw them again.” Common cases of sacrilege and coarse theft, we know, can be punished on conviction; but there are other acts equally offensive to propriety and the strict observance of *meum* and *tuum*, which are permitted to pass unscathed. Several years ago, the incumbent of a Church in the north, built a new house in the country, and flagged his kitchen with tombstones taken from the Church-yard. This, in all conscience, seemed to be bad enough; but as if to out-Herod Herod, the Minister of another Church, in the same goodly town, took up a number of tombstones from the consecrated place of burial, about two years since, and sold them for eighteen pence and two shillings a-piece, to a neighbouring stone-mason.\* This was treating the memorials of regard and affection, as rubbish of their own, notwithstanding they had been paid for by others: but sometimes such removals have occurred, because the monuments were considered to be obstacles in the way of improvement—as in many of the London funereal grounds: yet in such cases, surely they might be placed in assigned

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\* In the Navy, the stones used with sand for rubbing and scouring the decks, are called *holy stones*. This name is said to have been assigned many years ago, when a large supply of those articles was received on board the Channel Fleet, of which a great proportion was found to consist of broken tombstones.

spots of the precincts, as is done at the Church of Stratford—truly Shakspeare's mausoleum. Even now, in the work-yard of a respectable mason at Aylesbury, are some old tombstones torn (*con permesso*) from a neighbouring Churchyard; one of which shews that, about one hundred and fifty years ago, Jacob Dell deceased at the ripe age of seventy-eight, and that on the 16th of January 1717, his wife died also aged exactly seventy-eight.

How far law or usage can authorise parochial officials—clerical or lay—to demolish or eject tombs and sacred memorials, or to transfer intra and extra-mural inscriptions in their charge, is matter for very serious inquiry. At all events, such acts cannot be justified in principle; for however unintentional of evil the motive may be, the deed at once insults the dead and injures the quick.

This matter is not so light or fanciful as superficial observers may suppose, since such silent memorials have often legally decided points of consanguinity, and facts in dates, with consequent claims to inheritance of property and titles. This was strikingly evinced about forty years ago, when Mr. Henry Nugent Bell, by the evidence of the fragments of an old tombstone, hunted up the Huntingdon dignity, and obtained the restoration of that noble Earldom for Lieutenant Hastings, of the Royal Navy. Moreover the recent investigation by the House of Lords, in the hotly-contested and really great case of the Shrewsbury peerage, aroused attention to the insecurity of our Churches for the preservation of monumental remains; as well as to the startling fact, that many lapidary and other inscriptions are annually destroyed, or tampered with. In the course of the proceedings in this grave inquiry, it was proved that a colossal act of Vandalism and knavery had been perpetrated in Bromsgrove Church, Worcestershire, in that the alabaster Talbot monument had its raised letters designedly pared down and painted over, to efface all the evidence of lineage. This wilful felony was clearly established, before the Lords, by Messrs. Roach Smith and Walker; and though the obliteration had been made with infinite pains, both these able gentlemen succeeded in decyphering it independently of each other; and, fortunately for the ends of justice, their respective readings accorded—a damaging shot upon the fraud. Another occurrence which took place, also in the House of Lords, during the inquiry into the

Tracy Peerage claim, was related to me on the evening of the day on which it happened, by Sir Charles Young, *Garter*, who was officially present. It appears that on this investigation, a copy of the funereal inscription which promised "to do the deed" was produced; and then, to clinch the bolt, the very tombstone itself. All now seemed to be quite convincing: but most provokingly for the claimants, after the eleventh hour, the opposing party brought forward the identical person himself who had been hired to execute the cited epitaph, and who made oath that he had graved the whole with his own hands. On this unexpected imbroglio, he was directed to make a fac-simile on the spot: a flat free-stone, and the necessary implements, being brought into court before the assembled Peers. The old mason proceeded about his business with methodical coolness, to the dismay of the taken-aback party; and being offered a suggestion while at work, by one of them, as to an alteration of form in one of the letters, gruffly replied—"No, I shall cut this as I cut that," pointing the tool at his first performance, which was lying beside him. The case was, of course, lost.

While the purity of necrological records have been thus tampered with for corrupt purposes, they have also been altered at times in a mere tricksome spirit, but with equal injury to public confidence; both of which evils had been impracticable under a better order of supervision. I may illustrate the latter charge by a pretty strong instance, in the which it was my lot to impinge on a curious allegation which had obtained general credence for many years. In a late visit to Hull, so justly famous for its whalers and other traders, among its various *lions* I was taken to see a remarkable tombstone in the pavement of a very noble edifice, Trinity Church. Upon this memorial is a shield inscribed with the distinguishing Merchants' Marks of that day, around which is graven—

HERE LYETH IN PEACE WALTER PECKE MARCHANT  
ADVENTVRER WHO DEPARTED THIS LYFE IN THE  
FAITH OF CHRIST THE 8 OF IVLY ANO D 1528.

and I was surprised at finding these words across the stone—

AND CATHERINE HIS WIFE WHO DIED 31 OF  
IANVARY 1528.

In the last, the absence of ligatured letters, wife instead

of wyf, and the general appearance of the characters, be-token a later date than the first inscription, but not the lapse of a whole century. Although unused to tilt at reasonable tradition, I could not but be shaken : and on closely scrutinizing the above numerals—1528—the 2 has a most suspicious and untrusty aspect. At length, to the chagrin of my town-born hearers, I ventured to presume that some wag—one just capable of displaying wit on the first of April—by scraping a dash to the lower part of an ill-formed 9, has added 70 years to the time of Pecke's death. This indeed seems to be somewhat countenanced on a reference to the *History of Hull*, by my friend and local pilot Charles Frost, F. S. A., wherein it appears that the Company of Merchant Adventurers for that port, of which Pecke is designated a member in the above inscription, was not chartered until the year 1577 (11th May, IX Elizabeth). This alteration may have been made in mere pleasantry ; but the place and the object render practical joking at once improper and mischievous, such matters being difficult of detection where time has silenced the voice of tradition. The quaint observation made by Fuller bears upon the like acts, though the old worthy aimed it at ostentatious eulogies on the interred—"He was a witty man who first taught a stone to speak, but he was a wicked man that taught it first to lie."

Shortly afterwards, while still labouring under the above-mentioned ugly suspicion, I visited Manchester, where an opportunity was kindly offered me, of examining the registers preserved in the Cathedral. In these truly authentic archives I found a notice—under date Julie 6, 1665, which awakened my scruples and mistrust ; yet, after a rigorous examination, I cannot but pronounce it to be perfectly genuine. It runs thus—"Elizabeth daughter to Ffrancis Lyndley of Manchester Esq. whose mother, grandmother, great grandmother, and grandmother's grandmother were all borne and are now living in this parish."

These instances are merely brought forward in justification of the main argument, and to intimate the care and inviolability with which our time-vestigia ought to be preserved, in order to their conveying truth to futurity ; the course to be taken being neither troublesome, onerous, nor expensive. Had the local Archæological Associations

recently formed, but been embodied even a century ago, what ravages, now irreparable, might have been averted! The important design of such Societies is not only to preserve memorials of interest, but also to collect substantiated facts and documents relating to County history and County families—to elucidate what is obscure—and to verify what is doubtful. It is therefore to be hoped, that the excellent and useful spirit of conservatism which is now fairly afloat respecting records and relics, will operate in keeping them from unhallowed clutches for the future—leaving ruthless Old Time as the only destroyer.

I beg to subscribe myself, &c.,

W. H. SMYTH.

*The Rev. Charles Lowndes, F. R. A. S., &c.*

P. S. While writing the above, I received a letter from the zealous Mr. W. H. Huffam, F.S.A., a part of which is so much in keeping with what is brought forward, that a mention may be added. This gentleman, in examining the old Gothic Church at Hessle, near Beverley—once the head-quarters of the potent Percies—found a remarkable brass removed from its original place; it is inscribed

Here under lieth Dame An Percy,  
Wife to Syr Henri Percy: to him bare  
xviij children. Which An departed  
the xix day of December, the yeare of  
ourorde MDXI, on wchis  
soullis I'hu hab merci.

As my Correspondent was desirous of learning something more respecting "Syr Henri" and "Dame An," I applied to the Duke of Northumberland; who kindly directed a search to be made among the documents at Syon House, but without success. However, his Grace forwarded the only statement of pedigree which seemed to bear upon an otherwise silent case; but it is one from which information may yet be derived.

## SOME NOTES CONCERNING OLNEY.

The meaning of the name Olney is involved in much obscurity; for though the latter syllable is, no doubt, the Anglo-Saxon *eye*, denoting the watery situation of the place, the former portion of the word is not so easily interpreted. The earliest form of the word on record is that which occurs in Domesday Book, *Olnei*, so that the name has continued essentially unaltered for eight hundred years. In the English translation of Camden's *Britannia* (1610), the word is written *Oulney*, and this corrupt spelling was in common use until a few years since; but the correct form has lately been restored. The meaning of the word may perhaps be hereafter ascertained by comparing it with other similar names which occur in England. There is, first, the celebrated Isle of *Alney*, near Gloucester, which the Saxons called *Oleneag*, and the old chronicler Robert of Gloucester, *Oleneye*.\* Leland designates it "*Olney* alias *Alney*."† There was also a place in Warwickshire called *Olneye*, of which in Dugdale's time there was "no memorial left but a double moat bearing the name."‡ It may be conjectured that this was the site of a mansion belonging to the Olney family, originally of Bucks, a branch of which was perhaps transferred to Warwickshire through the patronage of the Beauchamps, Earls of Warwick, of whose extensive domains the Buckinghamshire Olney so long formed a part. There are then, at least two other places bearing names essentially the same, as it would seem, with that of the town which is the subject of the present paper; but what its signification is, I have hitherto been unable to discover. I shall therefore leave this point to the investigation of those members of the Society who have paid special attention to the ancient languages and dialects of England, and proceed to offer a few remarks upon the early history of the town.

Passing over the British period, of which, so far as I am aware, there are no traces in this neighbourhood, I

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\* I. 307. In old English the letters *g* and *y* are frequently convertible.

† *Itin.* v. 2. ‡ *Hist. of Warw.* 128.

come to the Roman age, during which the district was included in the extensive province of Flavia Cæsariensis. It is clear that a site not far northward of the present town of Olney was a Roman station.\* A field, now called Ash Furlong, which lies between the Lavendon and Warrington roads, is literally full of Roman pottery-ware, and here coins also have been found in considerable quantities. The coins extend at least from the reign of Nerva to that of Constantine, the earlier ones being mostly of silver, the later ones of brass. A few years ago a small bronze figure of Mercury, belonging, I imagine, to the class of *penates* or household gods, was discovered somewhere hereabouts. This interesting relic is now in the possession of Mr. Gershom Longland, of Olney.

Regarding the Saxon period, I have little to communicate. During that age the town received its present name (unless indeed the prefix be of earlier date); and, as the termination of that name apparently implies, was moved, perhaps by slow degrees, to its present site beside the river. According to a treaty made between our great Alfred and the Danish Guthrum, probably about 879, the boundary line which separated their territories ran up the Lea to its source, then straight to Bedford, and thence up the Ouse to Watling Street.† Olney, therefore, was just within the boundary of the Danish kingdom. Almost all that we know of the town in Saxon times is comprised in the brief entry contained in Doomsday Book, a record which, not only as to Olney, but the whole county, has, I venture to submit, a special claim upon your most diligent investigation.

To trace the manor through the old Earls of Chester, the illustrious families of Albini, Bassett, and Beauchamp, and its other owners, is not my present purpose; but with your permission I will briefly mention one or two curious circumstances connected with the subject, which afford a strange contrast to the present condition of society.

It appears from the Hundred Rolls‡ that in the 4th year of King Edward I. (1275-6) the Countess of Arundel, to whom the manor then belonged, with ten

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\* A Paper on the Roman station at Olney, by Edward Pretty, Esq., late of Northampton, is printed in *The Archaeological Journal*, iii. 264.

† Dr. Guest, on "The four Roman ways." *Archæol. Journal*, xiv. 104. This appears to be the earliest mention of the Watling Street.

‡ *Rot. Hund.* (Rec. Comm.) i. 42.

armed men, seized the men of Master Nicholas de Bachingdenn, rector of the Church of Olney, (for it was then a rectory,) and imprisoned them, and forcibly took possession of three hundred measures of corn, two horses, two carts bound with iron, five cows, four sheep, two heifers, and ten swine, belonging to the rector—we need not be surprised that it is added “to his no small loss.” We can hardly suppose that the Countess was *personally* concerned in such an act of violence, though very likely she was a party to it. Whether the reverend agriculturist obtained any compensation for this lawless deed does not appear.

It is well known that the Crown had formerly a right of buying up provisions at a valuation, in preference to all other purchasers. This right of pre-emption, as it was called, was restrained in some degree by Magna Charta, and finally abolished on the Restoration. The fact which I am about to mention has relation to it. In Trinity term in the 10th year of King Edward II. (June, 1317,) Robert Legat and John Salcote (who had been apprehended by John de Foleville, bailiff to Robert Basset of Olney, and Simon de Horewold, bailiff to John de Grey of Horewold, *i. e.* Harrold,) were arraigned at Westminster upon a charge of having, with other persons unknown, by means of a forged commission with a counterfeit of the royal seal, taken from divers persons in the market\* of the town of Olney, beasts to the number of sixty, as if for the use of the King. Although the forged commission was produced in court, the prisoners pleaded “Not guilty.” Somehow or other Legat was acquitted; but Salcote was convicted and sentenced to be hanged.† It is evident that at this period Olney must have had a considerable market for the sale of cattle.

That the Church of Olney was formerly situated at the north extremity of the present town, is a well attested fact. There is a spot, exactly such as in a hundred instances was chosen for a Church, lying at the junction of the roads to Warrington and Yardley, and tradition says it was “the old Church-yard”—a designation which, as I am informed, occurs in the deeds of “The Castle,” an adjoining public-house. Nor is this all. Human bones

\* “in pleno mercato.” † *Placitorum Abbreviatio* (Rec. Comm.) 328.

have been discovered here in great quantities, and, at least on one occasion, taken to the present Church-yard, and there re-interred. Again, here is a spring of water which still bears the name of "Christen Well;" and it is moreover to be noticed that the present Church does not contain a fragment of an earlier building, as it most likely would have done had such a structure occupied its site. The ancient Church was probably destroyed five hundred years ago; but I can hardly imagine that its site was desecrated until the sacrilegious period which followed the Reformation.

The existing Church is dedicated by the name of St. Peter and St. Paul, and consists of a nave, with aisles divided therefrom by five arches on each side, a very spacious chancel, a western tower and spire, and a north porch (of modern date, but clearly occupying the site, and indeed incorporating some remains, of an ancient one) with a room above. The pile, considered as a whole, exhibits a fair type of a large English parish Church, differing, however, from the majority of such edifices in the position of the porch, which is here on the *north* side, and not as usual on the south. This is sufficiently accounted for by the fact that the town lies northward of the Church; but that there may have been also a southern porch is not unlikely. The most remarkable feature in the ground-plan of Olney Church, is that the chancel is not in a direct line with the nave, but inclines considerably to the north. This peculiarity, mystically referring to our Lord's bowing down His Head upon the Cross, occurs in very many Churches; but the divergence is seldom so great as to be conspicuous.\*

From close and frequent inspection of the architectural features of this Church, I have little hesitation in assigning its erection to the second quarter of the XIVth century (1325-50). We have the authority of tradition for the statement (marvellous as it may seem), that the foundations were originally laid in the Lordship-close (a field adjoining the Church-yard to the west), but that they were constantly removed at night by unseen hands to the site which the Church now occupies, until the original inten-

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\* Litchfield Cathedral and St. Michael's Church, Coventry, are noted examples. In England the inclination is generally to the south.

tion was abandoned, and the building erected on the spot thus supernaturally indicated. A similar tradition prevails in several other places. Mr. Sternberg, in his interesting volume on *The Dialect and Folk Lore of Northamptonshire*, mentions occurrences of a like nature in that adjacent county.\* The edifice of which I am now speaking, is therefore connected with the Northamptonshire group, not only by its lofty spire, but by the traditional circumstances of its erection.

Olney Church is entirely of the decorated, or middle pointed, style of architecture. I am not referring to those parts which have been rebuilt (the south aisle, a great part of the north aisle, and the porch, though these are *imitative* of the rest), but of the general structure. So closely, and in so many points does this Church resemble that of Emberton,† that I think there is much reason to ascribe them both to the same masterly designer,—one of those great though nameless architects of old, whose works, marred, disfigured, mutilated though they be, by plaster ceilings, hideous pews, cumbrous galleries, and abominable stoves and gas-pipes, still bear traces of an unearthly beauty which the grovelling and mercenary utilitarian builder of the present day can neither see nor imitate. It is related that on one occasion somebody said to our great landscape-painter, “Turner, I never saw such colours in nature as there are in your pictures”—the answer was—“Don’t you wish you could?” Thus it is with the true ecclesiologist; he sees what too many of our modern *pseudo* “Church restorers” cannot see, and discovers mines of architectural beauty even in the lowliest of our village fanes.

The portion of Olney Church which first strikes the eye of an observer is the massive graduated tower, with its noble and many-lighted spire. The pinnacles at the angles are somewhat stunted in their form; the result probably of decay, or unskilful restoration. Viewed during a fine sunset from Clifton-hill, the spire with its numerous openings presents an appearance not soon to be forgotten. Its most curious feature—one which, I must admit, detracts, in my opinion, from its gracefulness—is the bulging of its sides, technically called *entasis*.

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\* pp. 139. 195.    † The tower of Emberton is not here alluded to; most of it is of later date by about a century.

Though, as I have already said, all the ancient portions of the Church are decorated, the nave had formerly a roof and a small clerestory of the perpendicular era. This roof, which, judging from some existing fragments, must have been a very fine one, was barbarously destroyed about the year 1800, for the sake of the lead, which was sold in order to defray the cost of some repairs, that, but for the grossest vandalism, would not have been required. The rood-loft, and nearly the whole of the screen, had vanished before the destruction of the carved roof; but the lower panels, with some traces of decorative colour, remained till about five years ago. Some old inhabitants recollect a small door-way northward of the chancel arch, beneath the tablet to John Thompson; and this, no doubt was the way leading to the rood-loft. When this loft existed, the peculiarity of the chancel-arch, which (like that at Emberton) dies into the side walls of the nave, was perhaps less observable.

The best windows in the Church are the side ones of the chancel. The two westernmost are brought lower than the others, and crossed near the bottom by a plain transom. The same feature occurs at Emberton. I need hardly say that the symbolical import, or practical use, of this arrangement, is a disputed question. Occurring, as it generally does, upon *one* side only of the chancel, it has been thought to signify the piercing of our Saviour's Heart at the time of His crucifixion; but this explanation seems hardly satisfactory, when, as in the chancels of Olney and Emberton, the peculiarity occurs on *both* sides.\*

In the usual position we find three sedilia gradually rising eastward, and a piscina with a corresponding arch. Until a few years ago these were blocked. I must mention that the corbel-heads are not original; though this will be apparent on inspection. Opposite to the sedilia is an arched recess which served the purpose, during the continuance of the ancient rites, of the Easter Sepulchre. Possibly it may be the tomb of the present Church's unknown founder.†

The east window is singular in form, being very wide in proportion to its height, and terminating in the segment

\* See *Ecclesiologist*, v. 189, where the above-mentioned explanation is defended even in the case of two "vulne windows" or "lychnocopes."

† See Neale's *Hierologus*, 153.

of a circle, otherwise called a reversed catenarian arch. Whether this be the original shape of the window is very doubtful, for though the dripstone and corbels do not seem to have been disturbed, the form is so unusual, so far from harmonizing with the rest of the building, and so unlike the beautiful east window in the closely corresponding Church of Emberton, that I cannot help regarding it as an innovation, though not a recent one. The tracery is modern.\*

There are two or three extracts from ancient wills which I introduce here, because they refer to the internal ornamentation of the Church.

In 1516,† Sir Thomas Digby, Knt., willed to be buried before the image of the Trinity in St. Peter and St. Paul's Church in Olney.

In 1520, Richard Cook, alias Squier, gave to a pair of organs here, £6. 6s. 8d.

In 1535, Sir John Threlkeld, vicar of Olney, bequeathed two books of parchment, a candlestick, two altar-cloths, and two towels to this Church.

In the Church-yard there was formerly a cross. I am informed by an inhabitant of Olney that he remembers its base, a short distance from the north-west angle of the tower.

A chantry was founded here by Ralph, the last Lord Bassett of Drayton, whose will, made in Jan. 1390, contains the following passage:—"I will that four chauntries be founded, to pray for my soul for ever, in the following places: two at Bethlem without Bishopsgate, *one in the Chapel of our Lady in the Church-yard at Olney*, and one in the new chapel built by me at Colston Bassett in honour of St. Ivo, for which I give CCL."‡ Lord Bassett died on the 10th of May in the same year.

The Chapel of the Virgin is believed to have stood de-

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\* In Dr. Lipscombe's *History of Bucks* the window is totally misrepresented.

† Before this period John Mordon alias Andrew, rector of Emberton, gave, in his life time, to the Church of Olney a Catholicon, (no doubt the *Catholicon seu Summa Grammaticalis* of Jo. de Balbis), *Legenda Aurea*, (the well known work of Jac. de Voragine), and "portos," i. e. a Breviary; besides certain books and ornaments to other Churches. This appears from his monumental brass at Emberton, the curious inscription upon which has never yet been correctly printed. Some words in it, (apparently in crat' (tr')) are indeed most puzzling.

‡ Nicolas, *Vetusta Testamenta*, 125.

tached from the Church, to the south-west. The chantry afterwards acquired the designation of the Earl of Warwick's chantry, unless indeed, that was a separate foundation. I believe the Earl was but as it were a *second* founder,\* for we hear no more of Lord Bassett's chantry, and but one chantry priest is named in the *Valor Ecclesiasticus* of Henry VIII.

I shall now offer a few remarks concerning the mill, and the bridge at Olney.

It is clear that water-mills were in use amongst our Saxon ancestors. Whenever a mill is mentioned in Domesday Book, a *water-mill* is meant, and in many cases it remains (as at Olney) to the present day. In feudal times there existed not that class of millers who now stand between the growers and the bakers. The lord of every manor where there was a stream, usually (perhaps invariably) had his mill—a grist mill, receiving the corn of the tenants of the manor, and returning it ground; a certain customary portion being generally retained, under the name of toll, as a recompense for the grinding; though sometimes money payments were received instead. In some manors tenants were *obliged* to grind at the lord's mill; and there is one instance upon record in which a tenant was presented at the Court Leet, for refusing to do so.† “To bring grist to one's mill” is a proverbial phrase, which, we may well suppose, originated in this feudal custom. In early times, notwithstanding the much smaller population of this country, mills were far more numerous, though, it may be, generally smaller, than at present. In three adjacent parishes of Wiltshire, where at the time of the Conqueror's survey there were no fewer than seventeen mills, there are now but three,‡ a diminution ascribable to social changes and various other causes which need not now be specified. The situation of many an ancient mill which has disappeared, may still be probably surmised by what seems to be an unnatural deflection of the river. I may here remark that there was until a comparatively recent period a mill at Clifton Reynes. It is noticed by our poet Cowper in the 5th book of “The Task,” and its site is still apparent. The mill at Olney certainly existed before the Norman Conquest. It is described in Domesday Book

\* 5 Edw. IV. 1465-6.

† At Woodford, Wilts. Duke, *Profuliones Historica*, 397. ‡ *Ib.* 398.

as "one mill of 40 shillings and 200 eels," such doubtless being the rent which it produced to the Bishop of Constance, who then was lord of Olney. Ranulph, Earl of Chester, one of his successors, is recorded to have given to God and the monks of St. Peter at Gloucester, 40 shillings a year charged on the mill at Olney.\* From this period its history becomes obscure.

There can be no doubt that from a very early period Olney had its bridge. Amongst our ancestors the erection or maintenance of such a structure was deemed a work of charity, and truly it had *here* more than an ordinary claim to be so regarded. There is on the Patent Roll for the 8th year of King Edward III. (1334) an entry of a patent for the reparation of Olney bridge;† and it is stated in the Parish Register that the bridge was made in 1619. The structure

" — that with its wearisome but needful length  
Bestrode the wintry flood,"

in Cowper's time, was removed about thirty years ago; but there still remains, at the northern extremity, one old arch with a dripstone; and the two adjoining arches, though semicircular, are of some antiquity. The bridge to which these belong is a distinct structure, crossing not the main river, but the mill-stream. How long this interesting relic of the past will be allowed to remain, I cannot say. Spoilers are abroad, and a new bridge of cast-iron—that most odious and unpicturesque of all materials—is ever and anon the theme of their remorseless deliberations.

There are within the town and parish a few ancient domestic edifices of some interest, and relics or traditions of many more. Olney Courts, a farm situated about a mile north-west of the town, is, I have little doubt, the site of the mansion of the old feudal lords. Olney Park, another farm in the same quarter, marks the situation of the land which Ralph Lord Bassett was licensed to empark in 1374.‡ A house on the west side of the town-street, now inhabited by Mr. John Aspray, though considerably damaged by the fire of 1854, still contains some wood carvings of the Tudor period; and the ground floor has a

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\* Dugdale, *Monasticon*, i. 118, ed. 1655.

† *Cal. Rot. Pat. in Turri Lond.* (Rec. Comm.) 119.

‡ *Ib.* 189 b. *Cal. Inquis. post Mortem* (Rec. Comm.) ii. 336.

ceiling divided crossways by massive moulded beams of oak. At their intersection was a boldly carved boss, which, though now detached, is carefully preserved. Another house, situated near the northern extremity of the town on the same side, contains some very curious stucco-work. In a room on the ground floor there is the figure of a man on horseback, with the following inscription:—ANNO 1624 M<sup>R</sup> JOHN BRVNT ONE OF Y<sup>E</sup> KINGS MES-SINGERS WAS AT THE COST OF THIS WORK. Other parts of the room are ornamented with a variety of allegorical devices. The Great House, as it was usually called, (the last that I shall mention), stood very near the Church, to the south-east. It was built by William Johnson, Esq., impropiator of the great tithes, who came to Olney in 1642, and died in 1669; and it continued for several generations to be the dwelling of his family. This substantial structure, with its many gables and square mullioned windows, gradually fell into decay, and ultimately disappeared, within the memory of the present generation.\*

Some distance out of the town, at the junction of the roads to Warrington and Lavendon, there is an open space which was, I have little doubt, the place where the gallows of the ancient lords of Olney reared its awful form. I need hardly say that, amongst ancient feudal privileges, those of *furca et fossa* stand conspicuous. Dr. Lipscombe, the historian of our County, mentions the discovery of skeletons at the intersection of old trackways in other parts of Buckinghamshire,† where tradition says the gallows stood; and such spots have continued, until very recent times, to be appropriated—no doubt from their traditional association with the burial of felons—to the unhallowed sepulture of suicides. A *felo de se* was buried about 1790 at the spot to which I have referred.

The names borne, from time immemorial, by various localities within this parish, present a curious and interesting subject of enquiry; but as I must draw these observations to a close, I shall allude to only one or two. There is a narrow way leading from the Weston-road towards the Church-yard entrance through the Lordship close,

\* There is some account of it, with a wood-cut, in the *Sunday at Home*, Oct. 29, 1857.

† In Chearsly parish.

and it is called Dead Lane. This I take to have been a lich-way, or funeral path, as well from a part of Olney town itself, as from Weston Underwood. I may remind this audience that until the time of Sir John Olney, who founded the present Church of Weston towards the end of the XIVth century, that place was merely a chapelry to Olney, without the right of sepulture. The southern end of Olney was known more than three hundred years ago by the name of "Brigge Street;" for it is recorded in 1546 that a cottage situated in the part so called had belonged to the Earl of Warwick's chantry.

I have thus, most imperfectly, laid before the Buckinghamshire Architectural and Archæological Society a few desultory notes concerning the early history of the town of Olney. They are extracted from a voluminous collection, the result of many years' research. Very much might have been added relative to the points to which I have alluded, and to many more which I have overpassed in silence. I trust the day is not far distant when the substance of the materials which have been collected, embracing the history of the town and district (including Warrington and Weston Underwood), from the earliest period of which anything is known to the present time, will be laid before the public. To this end I would respectfully request the communication of intelligence in any way relating to Olney and its neighbourhood. The sight of any documentary evidence, drawings, seals, or other relics of the past, will be especially acceptable; and whatever assistance may be rendered by any who are interested in the undertaking will be thankfully acknowledged.

WALTER PENNINGTON STORER.

*Olney, June 23rd, 1860.*

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#### SITES OF CASTLES IN BUCKS.

Earthworks of feudal castles, or crenellated mansions exist at Lavendon, Whitchurch, Castlethorpe, Wolverton, Weston Turville, Handslope, and Risborough.—[*Handbook for Berks, Bucks, and Oxford.*]

## DESECRATED CHURCHES OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

*(Continued from Vol. I., p. 292.)*

**23. FILGRAVE.**—The village of Filgrave lies about three miles from Newport Pagnell. Though it is now united, both parochially and ecclesiastically to Tyringham, it was formerly a distinct parish, and possessed a Church of its own, which has long since been destroyed and swept away.

When this Church was first founded is not known, but it must have been at a very early period, for in the reign of Henry II., about A.D. 1160, the advowson of it was given by Hamon, son of Memfelin, Lord of the honor of Wolverton, to the nunnery of St. Mary de la Pre, near Northampton. As this notice speaks of the Church as then existing, without any reference to its foundation, it is probable that it was founded soon after the conquest; for it was the practice of the Norman Lords, when they received grants of land from the King, to build and endow Churches near their own residences, and in every village situated on, or connected with, their several manors. The Rectory in 1291 was assessed for Pope Nicholas's Tax, at £4 13s. 4d., which is equivalent to £200 at the present time.

The advowson of Filgrave continued in the possession of the Abbey of St. Mary de la Pre till the dissolution of that convent in the reign of Henry VIII. It was then granted in A.D. 1544 to Thomas Lowe. Subsequently Edward VI. granted it to Sir Nicholas Throckmorton, knt., his heirs and assigns for ever. From the Throckmorton family it appears to have passed by sale to the family of Tyringham, of Tyringham; and thus the two livings of Filgrave and Tyringham, coming into the same patronage, they were probably soon after consolidated into one benefice, but there does not appear to be any record of such

consolidation in the Diocesan Registers : for Browne Willis, in his M.S. account of Newport Hundred, observes, —“ I don't find in the Lincoln Registers any regular union or annexation of this Church (Filgrave) to Tyringham. It is said,” continues Willis, “ that in Queen Elizabeth's time the roof of this Church falling in, occasioned the parishioners to desert it, and resort to Tyringham. Thomas Bradshaw was presented to the rectory of Tyringham in 1585, and in 1598 he also stiled himself Rector of Filgrave, and not before, as it seems to me.”

Browne Willis then proceeds, in his usual way, to repeat almost verbatim what he had before said, thus—“ Filgrave Church being much decayed and at length the roof falling in, and the parish being but small, it was united to Tyringham in Queen Elizabeth's reign, and joined in the presentation with that Church, and so they became one consolidated rectory, and are now, A.D. 1730, held together, as well as the manors, by the family of Backwell of Tyringham, heirs to the family of Tyringham. I was informed,” continues Willis, “ by old persons, that the family of Tyringham never prospered after desecrating Filgrave Church ; and that there were three bells, two of which were carried to Tyringham and one to Sherington. One Downing is reported to have been the last person baptized at Filgrave : his grandson died at Sherington A.D. 1720, as I was told.”\*

Filgrave Church was dedicated to St. Mary, and consisted of a chancel, a nave, and an embattled tower fifty feet high, in which, according to Willis, there were three bells. When he visited it, in 1730, the tower and part of the side walls were standing ; and they would, probably, have been still standing had they not been purposely demolished.

Cole informs us that, in 1758, Mrs. Backwell, then of Tyringham House, gave orders “ for the utter pulling down of the Tower and what remained of the side walls of Filgrave Church in order to repair a mill.” This desecration was postponed a short time through the intervention of Mr. Wright, of Gothurst, who, however, does not appear to have been influenced by any veneration for the sacred edifice.

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\* A list of the Rectors of Filgrave from 1272 to 1661 is given in Lipscomb.

Cole's account of the matter is curious. "When Mr. Wright," says he, "heard of Mrs. Backwell's design, the Tower making a very good object from one of his parlour windows, as it does also at Weston Underwood and many parts of this neighbourhood, he applied to Mrs. Backwell, as Guardian of her Son, to prevent the taking it down, offering, as I was told by Mr. Throckmorton, to give from his estates an equal quantity of tones for the Repairs of the mill; but by the suggestion of the Steward, that old stones which had stood the weather were more probable to be of longer duration, and better for their purpose, it was not listened to, and the Tower was taken down for the aforesaid use." Cole, a few years later, has recorded, in his own peculiar style, some further particulars respecting this curious transaction. In his diary he writes—"June 25th, 1766. Dining with Mr. Smith (the rector of Filgrave) at Mr. Barton's, of Sherington, he told me, that he was at Mr. Wright's when the answer came from Mrs. Backwell (who is since dead, and buried in Tyingham Church, her son was a minor of about thirteen years of age at Eton Schole), who (*i. e.* Mrs. Backwell) had the unpoliteness to demand of Mr. Wright, instead of pulling down the tower, which they much desired might stand, a writing under his hand that his family would always engage to let the Mill be repaired from the Gothurst Stone Quarries. This I mention not only to show the unreasonableness of the demand, but how thrifty a steward she was for her son. Mr. Chubb, Valet de Chambre to Mr. Thomas Uthwat, of Great Linford, and who inherited his master's loose principles, as well as his old clothes, being Steward to Mrs. Backwell, was thought to advise the pulling down the Tower. Mr. Smith said that he dug up the Foundations last year to make reparations at the parsonage, as also that no one had any right to take away the materials off from his freehold, had he been disposed to make any words about it, which he did not choose to do, as they gave him the living. Mr. Chubb is an old bachelor, came out of the north, lives at Sherington, and is worth 3,000 Pounds."

It is necessary to state that Mrs. Backwell might be a very estimable lady notwithstanding the remark of Cole, who was too much given to detraction, and unscrupulous in his remarks on persons who had in any way displeased him. She probably took no active part in the transaction,

but left it in the hands of her agent. Cole himself, in another part of his manuscript, gives a favourable testimony of the rector who dug up the foundations of the Church. "Mr. Smith," says he, "the present rector of Filgrave and Tyringham, has fitted up the parsonage house here in a very handsome manner; he was of Oxford, son to Mr. Smith, rector of Emberton, and married a daughter of Mr. Shann, of Chicheley, and is reputed to be a very worthy man." This notice is dated February 16th, 1760.

Thus in 1766 no portion of Filgrave Church was left standing;—the very foundations had been dug up, and part of them, at least had been carried away. Of that sacred edifice, which had been solemnly dedicated to the service of God and where prayer for centuries was wont to be made, not one stone was left upon another that had not been thrown down. With regard to the destruction of a consecrated edifice, no longer needed for the service of God, there always has been, and probably always will be, diversity of opinion. The destruction, or removal of ancient parish Churches is now carried to a great extent in the metropolis, and has received the sanction of many whose veneration for sacred objects cannot be questioned. But then the removal of a Church from one site to another is a very different thing to the appropriating a Church or the materials of one, to merely secular purposes. The changes which from time to time occur in the population of the country may, perhaps, justify the removal of a Church. One district for which a Church was built may become altogether destitute of inhabitants, while a large population may arise in another locality where no Church exists. In such cases it may sometimes, under special circumstances, be desirable to remove a Church from one spot to another; for the Christian's House-of-Prayer, like the Tabernacle of the wandering Israelites, may be pitched where most convenient for the worshippers connected with it to assemble. But no such plea can be applied to the destruction of Filgrave Church. It was not for the convenience of the population that the services of Filgrave Church were merged in those of Tyringham; for the amount of population at Filgrave has always far exceeded that of Tyringham. The present population of Filgrave is about 150—that of Tyringham not more than 30; and

the Rectory-house, which is still at Filgrave, is about two miles distant from Tyringham Church, but not more than about two hundred yards from the site of the destroyed Church at Filgrave. The sole cause then for the desecration and destruction of this Church appears to have originated in the parsimony or apathy of the inhabitants of the parish in the reign of Queen Elizabeth. The Church was suffered to become more and more dilapidated till at length the roof fell in;—then, of course, it could no longer be used for the services of the sanctuary; so those of the inhabitants of Filgrave who loved these services, and were able to walk so far, “resorted to Tyringham Church.”

But what became of the aged, the sickly and the infirm? Many of these, though they could not walk so far, yet loved the services of the sanctuary, and could have partaken of them in their own House-of-Prayer.

THE CHURCHYARD.—From a notice in Cole’s manuscript we learn that in 1616 “several persons willed to be buried in the Churchyard of Filgrave,” which shows that, after the Church had ceased to be used for divine service, the Churchyard still continued to be used as a consecrated burial ground. Even after the last relics of the Church were removed the Churchyard preserved its sacred character, and continued to be inclosed by a surrounding fence within the memory of persons still living. At length the wall, which separated it from the adjoining glebe, was removed.

Nothing now remained to define the extent of the ancient cemetery, or to attest the sacred character of the spot. The next step in its desecration was easy. The adjoining glebe had to be ploughed up, and, as there was no longer any boundary fence, the thrifty ploughman, naturally perhaps, encroached a few paces on the sacred soil, and the mouldering dust of our fellow-creatures was gradually becoming converted into a common corn-field.\* Such desecration is revolting to the feelings,—and not only so,—it is a breach of trust,—a violation of an invested right. A Churchyard, which has been consecrated as a place of sepulture, has been legally and formally conveyed for the purpose to God and His Church. Before the ground is consecrated the previous proprietor of it is required by a

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\* This encroachment appears to have occurred in the interval between the death of the last Rector and the Institution of the present.

deed of conveyance to relinquish all future claim upon it, so that whether it be sold or freely given for the purpose, it thenceforth becomes, so to speak, the property of the Dead; subject only to certain claims on it by the Church, which, as trustee, is bound as far as practicable to protect from all indignities the bodies of those there interred. Less than this can scarcely have been intended by these solemn words in the Consecration service—

“O God, who hast taught us in thy Holy word, that there is a difference between the spirit of a beast that goeth downward to the earth, and the spirit of a man which ascendeth up to God who gave it; and likewise by the example of thy holy servants, in all ages, hast taught us to assign peculiar places where the bodies of thy saints may rest in peace, and BE PRESERVED FROM ALL INDIGNITIES, whilst their souls are safely kept in the hands of their faithful Redeemer: Accept, we beseech thee, this charitable work of ours, in separating this portion of land to that good purpose.”

On a former occasion I have treated this point more fully, but enough has now been said to show that a Churchyard, which has been consecrated as a burial ground, has been legally and solemnly set apart for the purpose, and cannot be diverted from it without the violation of an invested right. Trusting to the fidelity of this contract, Christians have buried their dead in consecrated ground under the impression that, so long as the rights of property and the feelings of humanity were respected, they would be allowed to rest there in peace, and be secure from those indignities to which they might be subject if buried in common ground. Was it not under such impression that those persons “willed in 1616 to be buried in Filgrave Churchyard?” Though the Church was then in a dilapidated condition, would they have left such request in their wills had they expected the Churchyard would be converted into a corn-field? Undoubtedly they would not. And happily before the work of desecration had proceeded so far it was arrested. The present rector has had the ancient Churchyard properly enclosed. It has been again fenced off from the adjoining glebe; that portion has been again turfed over which had been torn up with the plough; and the whole enclosure is now used only for purposes consistent with its hallowed character.

This is as it should be ; and if ancient Churchyards which are no longer needed for sepulture were thus respected, instead of being thrown open for the common purposes of agriculture, there would not be much cause to complain. It might however be an additional means of perpetuating their sacred character, and of inspiring more veneration towards them, if a stone cross, or some such monument, were erected within such enclosures.

W. HASTINGS KELKE.

\* \* A Report of the foregoing paper having appeared in the "Newport Weekly Standard," it elicited the following letter, which shows that the suggestion of erecting a cross in a disused Churchyard had been anticipated, though unknown to the writer :—

*Lavendon, near Olney,*

*12th August, 1860.*

*To Mr. Croydon.*

SIR,—In your paper of the 11th instant is a report of a paper on "Filgrave Church," read at the Meeting of the Bucks Architectural and Archaeological Society at Newport Pagnell, which, after mentioning the desecration of Churchyards, adds, "In the case of such disused Churchyards, it would be well if, to perpetuate their sacred character, a stone cross were erected within them." Now this method has been adopted at Warely, in Huntingdonshire, where a new Church on a different site was erected by Colonel the Honourable Octavius Duncombe, a cross being erected on the old site, on which is the following inscription, viz. : "The Church of St. James the Great, which was destroyed by a tempest A.D. 1724, and rebuilt A.D. 1728, was replaced by a new Church erected in the centre of the village A.D. 1856. This cross marks its former site." Probably there may be similar instances, but this at Warely is a *fait accompli* within my knowledge ; and should the Rev. author of the said paper on Filgrave Church not be aware of the circumstance, it may be satisfactory to him to be acquainted with it, and you are at liberty to make what use of this paper you please.

Yours obediently.

ISAAC LENNY,

Land Surveyor.

## THE GARRISON OF NEWPORT PAGNELL DURING THE CIVIL WARS.

BY REV. H. ROUNDELL.

At the close of the summer of 1643 large bodies of the Royal forces were posted at Towcester and Grafton Regis in Northamptonshire, and at Stony Stratford in Buckinghamshire. These detachments formed the main strength of Prince Rupert's army, in his rapid and successful expedition into Bedfordshire during the first week in October, and were afterwards returned to their respective quarters. At the same time it was determined to advance still further the King's cause in the north-eastern division of the county of Bucks by the permanent occupation of Newport Pagnell as a winter garrison for a portion of the King's army, who in that position would less exhaust the neighbourhood of Oxford, keep open a communication from Reading to the northern parts of the kingdom, and impede the passage of the enemy between London and the Associated Counties. This service was entrusted to Sir Lewis Dives, a man of tried fidelity, but of no great ability as a soldier, and he reached Newport with a small force on the 6th of October, and immediately commenced to fortify the town with defensive works.

He designed to environ the town upon those sides that were undefended by the river, with a ditch and high embankment, afterwards to be surmounted by artillery so placed as to command the bridges over the Ouze and the roads leading to the town. These defences he was not destined to complete. Intelligence of the occupation of Newport speedily reached the Earl of Essex, and he, knowing that he should more easily reduce the place, if the attack were made before the works were finished, or reinforcements added to the garrison, pushed forward Major-General Skippon with a large force, himself following with the rest of his army. Whether the unfinished fortifications were indefensible, or, as Lord Clarendon states, a mistake of orders occurred, Dives retired

at the approach of Skippon, who lost not a day in occupying the town and fortifications thus easily abandoned. But Skippon's position was far from safe. The possession of Newport was important enough to both parties to be worth a struggle. And though Sir Lewis Dives had hastily withdrawn his men to Oxford, Prince Rupert was still at Stony Stratford, and a combined movement on his part with the forces at Towcester and Grafton might have made it difficult for Skippon to retain the Town.

Well aware of this danger, Major-General Skippon ordered a strong detachment to occupy Olney, and prepared a simultaneous attack upon the Royalists at three points. On the evening of the 1st of November he sent out of Newport considerable forces of horse and foot, divided into three detachments, one consisting of the horse from Northampton, another of the London Green and Orange Regiments, which had been sent down for the defence of the town, and the last formed of three regiments of horse, commanded respectively by Colonels Middleton, Harvey, and Turner, Harvey holding the chief command. The first detachment attacked the Earl of Northampton's troops at a place called Stowes in Northamptonshire, falling upon them about day-break, and took fourteen prisoners without loss to themselves. The London soldiers about the same time in the morning surprised an outpost of the Towcester garrison, encamped at Alderton, near Easton, also in Northamptonshire, and utterly routed it, killing fifteen, and making twenty-two prisoners. The regiments of horse under Colonel Harvey proceeded to Stony Stratford, where Prince Rupert remained quartered, and attacking during the night time, slew the sentinels, and entered the town, where they inflicted some further loss, and returned with eighteen prisoners, and only two of their own men wounded. Such was the success of these expeditions, that the correspondent of one of the Parliamentary Journals, after describing the skirmishes, adds—"So many horses were brought in, that a horse Fayre was held at Newport that day, and horses sold good cheape for ready money."

These successes were, however, soon compensated in another engagement. Prince Rupert smarting under the disgrace of being surprised in his own quarters, collected his men, and on Saturday, the fourth of November, three

days after the defeat at Stony Stratford, marched to Olney, where his successful adversary, Colonel Harvey, was then quartering, by Skippon's orders, with his three regiments of cavalry and a large force of infantry. Rupert appeared before the town at seven o'clock in the morning with several troops of horse, four hundred dragoons, and two hundred musqueteers, carried on horseback behind the cavalry. The watch was badly kept, and within a quarter of an hour after the sentinels had given the first alarm, and by the time that Colonel Harvey had drawn out one Regiment of horse, Rupert was within musket-shot of the town. Charging at once with his usual impetuosity, he carried all before him, and nearly captured the whole detachment. But at the opposite end of the town stood a long causeway, leading across the river, undoubtedly the same that Cowper afterwards described as

Yonder bridge  
That with its wearisome but needful length  
Bestrides the winter flood.

And here the fugitives were soon crowded together in great confusion. Colonel Harvey and some other officers contrived to rally a few of their men, and occupying a narrow part of the causeway, made a momentary stand against their pursuers. But Rupert's musqueteers quickly came up, when the retreating force after firing two hasty volleys, abandoned their position and retired beyond the bridge. Their panic was the means of their escape—Rupert's soldiers, surprised at the haste with which the enemy had quitted the town, and the equally rapid abandonment of their strong position on the bridge, became apprehensive lest a retreat so unexpected formed part of a preconcerted plan to entrap them into an ambushade beyond the causeway, and accordingly halted in their pursuit till assured that none of the enemy's troops were concealed in the town behind them. Their delay afforded time for the flying soldiers to reform their ranks in some order, and to retire beyond pursuit. Colonel Harvey lost sixty killed and forty prisoners, besides one hundred and twenty horses, and two stand of colours, and one of his writers congratulates himself that the loss was not greater, remarking of Prince Rupert's soldiers, "There was much "mercy in it, that they were stopped before they came

"to the bridge, for had they bin Mrs. of it they had divided us from our army at Newport, as they did a troope of our regiment that lay in a village could not come at us, but were constrained to get to Northampton." And although Lord Essex shortly afterwards published Colonel Harvey's dispatch written after the defeat, with a view of showing that the engagement terminated without much advantage to either side, and that the troops under his command were able to re-occupy Olney the same day, there can be no question that the substantial fruits of victory remained with Rupert, and might be fairly balanced against the losses of Stowes, Alderton, and Stony Stratford.

The most positive result of this victory is to be found in the fact, that although Rupert speedily marched away his troops from the neighbourhood, Skippon attempted no further attack upon the enemy beyond sending out a strong body to reconnoitre the garrison of Towcester till he had made safe the defensive works at Newport. He had with him during this and the following month the greater part of Lord Essex's army, placed there in their winter quarters, and the Green and Orange Regiments of the City of London, who had distinguished themselves at Newbury. Newport was soon "strongly fortified with moles and drawbridges;" Colonel Tirell was placed in chief command over the garrison, and it was intended to leave him as Governor, with a force of 2000 men, a strength sufficient, it was calculated, to hold the town against any attack or siege.

The settlement of a permanent garrison at Newport was mainly due to the foresight and exertions of Lord Essex. In November the Earl visited Newport, and personally inspected the fortifications then in progress. And as soon as the works were reported to be sufficiently advanced for safety, the Earl wrote from St. Alban's to the Speaker of the House of Commons, strongly advising the continued occupation of Newport, and urging in the main the same arguments which had previously influenced the King to send thither Sir Lewis Dives with a similar intention. In reply the Speaker directed that the proposal should be considered at St. Alban's at a Conference of the Committees of Bucks, Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Huntingdon and Suffolk, under the Presi-

gency of the Earl. The Council met, but discussed the project without warmth, fearing doubtless the expense of the future maintenance of the garrison: and it may be reasonably presumed that the Committee of Bucks, represented by Sir Peter Temple, Sir William Andrews, and Mr. Edmond West, were secret if not open opponents of the measure, as they were then busy in providing for the defence of Aylesbury, and their subsequent conduct towards the Governor of Newport, as indeed that of all the Associations, proved no desire on their parts for the continuance or welfare of the garrison. Even from the first day of their meeting it was plain to Lord Essex that nothing would be readily done in the Newport business, for which they were specially convened; and as vexatious delays were interposed at every step, they were at length brought to obedience by a peremptory order from the Speaker, requiring them "to attend the Lord General until the Newport garrison was settled."

Pending these conferences at St Alban's, the House of Commons had appointed its own Committee to deliberate on the fortification of Newport Pagnell, and to meet a Committee of the Lords. All agreed to recommend the proposed garrison, measures were taken for the present security of the town, and the Committee of the Commons reported to the House under date of the 8th of November that, "the Lords had agreed to their proposal to send the Hertfordshire Regiment from Luton to Newport, and that the Recorder of the City of London gave leave to the Green and Orange Regiments to remain at Newport a little longer."

Upon the acceptance of this Report the House of Commons proceeded to draw up an Ordinance for the future garrison of Newport. Further Committees were appointed, and conferences held between the two Houses, and many minor points examined with a care which does credit to the Members who conducted the proceedings. On the 30th of November the Draft of the Ordinance was presented to the Commons, taken into consideration within a few days after, and on Saturday, 16th of December, a Committee of the House of Lords, consisting of the Earl of Northumberland, Lords Pembroke, Warwick, Sarum, Bolinbroke, Say and Sele, Wharton, and Howard, met a Deputation of the House of Commons at three o'clock

in the afternoon in the Painted Chamber, to arrange finally the terms of the Newport garrison. The Ordinance as then settled, passed both Houses without alteration, and was ordered to be printed by the House of Lords on 18th December, 1643. It is somewhat voluminous, and may be found at length among the King's Pamphlets in the British Museum, and a full abstract of it in the Journals of the House of Lords, Vol. vi. p. 344. Its terms are in substance these—

“ That the town of Newport Pannell in Bucks shall be strongly fortified and provisioned, and the sum of one thousand pounds expended for this purpose, to be raised from the Counties following :—

Bedford . . . .	£187: 10.	Cambridge cum Ely . .	£80.
Hertford . .	£125.	Suffolke . . . . .	£125.
Northampton	£125.	Essex . . . . .	£125.
Huntingdon .	£45.*	Norfolk . . . . .	£125.

The Three Hundreds of Newport . . £62 10.

“ And that if the cost of the fortifications shall exceed one thousand pounds the additional sum required shall be raised rateably from the above-named Counties and Hundreds.

“ And for the maintenance of the works and garrison, and a body of three hundred horse and their officers, a monthly allowance of four thousand pounds, commencing from the first day of December, 1643, shall be raised as follows :—

Bedford . . . . .	£750.	Suffolke . . . . .	£500.
Hertford . . . . .	£500.	Essex . . . . .	£500.
Northampton . . . . .	£500.	Norfolke . . . . .	£500.
Huntingdon . . . . .	£180.	The Three Hun-	} £250.
Cambridge cum Ely.	£320.	dreds of Newport }	

“ And for providing a garrison it was ordered that within fourteen days after the passing of the Ordinance, the undermentioned Counties should send in soldiers :— Bedford 225 foot; Hertford 125; Northampton 150; Huntingdon 45; Cambridge cum Ely 105; Suffolke 150; Essex 150; Norfolke 150; and the Three Hundreds of

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\* The Counties of Huntingdon, Essex, and Cambridge appear to have been assessed to the fortification and maintenance of Newport on the recommendation of the Earl of Essex.

Newport 75; a force amounting to nearly 1200 men, to be placed under the command of a Governor, to be nominated by the Earl of Essex. The Ordinance gave authority to the Committees of the several contributory Counties to levy rates upon their towns and villages, to issue warrants against defaulters, and to appoint a Treasurer, with a salary of five shillings a day to receive and pay the sums allotted for the garrison, and directed each Committee to send forthwith a representative to Newport to assist the Governor. And besides this ample provision for the completion of the fortifications and the maintenance of the troops, the Ordinance proceeded further to lay down rules for the conduct of the garrison; the resident Committee was ordered to muster the soldiers, horse and foot, every fourteen days, and then give them their pay; the field officers and captains were made responsible for the full complement of men under their command, and if 'they failed a fifth part of their companies, they should forfeit a fifth part of their pay; if a fourth part, then a fourth, and so in proportion.'

"In the event of attack, or during siege, power was given to the Governor to put on duty all able-bodied men within the town; to compel the richer persons according to their means to provide the poorer with arms, under penalty of being put out of the garrison; and also to appoint a Mayor, with a salary of nine shillings a day, to receive and give orders and command the townsmen."

Of the two houses of Parliament that of the Lords appears to have been most solicitous for the safety of Newport. In agreeing to a vote of the Commons, ordering the Earl of Essex to march towards Windsor, the Lords inserted this clause—"So soon as forces shall be put into Newport Pannel for the safety thereof, whereby he may draw up his own forces to himself to march;" and in compliance with this injunction 500 men were sent to Newport by the Earl of Manchester. The Committee at Hertford proving dilatory in the execution of their part of the Ordinance, received fresh orders to proceed with their contribution of men and money, and that they might have no excuse for further delay, they were empowered and directed to take into custody all persons refusing to go to Newport. Thus secure of the countenance of the

Parliament, Skippon continued the fortifications, and as the time for the departure of Lord Essex's army from Newport drew near, he signalized the resignation of his command by a piece of good service to the Parliamentary cause.

On Thursday night, December the twenty-first, Skippon issued orders for the muster of a thousand foot with four pieces of artillery at Lathbury by two o'clock on the following morning. This force was there joined by a troop of horse of their own garrison, and another under Colonel Norwich; and the whole army under the command of the Major-General himself was immediately disposed in marching order, part of the horse advancing in the van, the infantry in the centre, and the rest of the Newport horse covering the rear. In this order they marched towards Grafton Regis, six miles distant northward from Newport, but on reaching it, made a detour leaving Grafton House to the right, and approached to within a mile of Towcester, which had been strongly fortified the preceding month under Rupert's own eye, and was then garrisoned by the King's troops. Here they were strengthened by the arrival of Colonel Whetham, Governor of Northampton, with large reinforcements of horse and foot. A halt ensued, and it then appeared either that the march towards Towcester was a mere feint to disguise Skippon's real intentions, or that Towcester was too strongly guarded to give the attacking force a chance of success; at any rate, a counter-march was immediately ordered, and the army retraced its steps towards Grafton.

Grafton House, situated on the brow of the hill above the village, and then held by Sir John Digby for the King, not only deserved its appellation of Regis, as a Royal demesne, but from its historical associations. Within its walls, on May-day, 1464, Edward the Fourth had been privately married to Elizabeth Woodville. King Richard the Third had halted his army in its neighbourhood in his march northwards, and himself occupied the mansion on the 19th of October 1493. At Grafton on the 4th of August 1529, the final interview between Henry VIII. and Cardinal Campeggio had taken place, the particulars of which are fully detailed by Cavendish, the friend and biographer of Wolsey; and Queen Elizabeth had slept there on the night of the 23rd of August, in

her Royal Progress of 1568. The house itself, an old and strongly built mansion, with thick stone walls, had been further strengthened for the purposes of defence by a substantial breast-work on the roof. Sir John Digby's force consisted of about one hundred musqueteers with their officers, and eighty troopers—rather less than an average garrison of the fortified houses of the Civil Wars. In such houses the musqueteers were usually employed for the defence of the place against attack, and the troopers to bring in supplies, intercept convoys of ammunition or provisions, and watch their opportunities of inflicting injuries on the enemy. It was generally considered that, except in case of surprise, these small garrisons ought to hold out for two or three days against an attacking force, and that within that space relief would reach them from some neighbouring friendly garrison, or their own army. In this expectation Sir John Digby disposed his men to await the enemy's attack, now inevitable.

The counter-march of Skippon's army, as ordered at Towcester, had entirely reversed the positions of his men. The Newport horse which had been in the rear, were now in front; and the Green and Orange, or London Regiments, next behind them; and the troops from Northampton, under Colonel Whetham, brought up the rear. In this order they marched upon Grafton; but when within sight of the house the older soldiers of Lord Essex's army, advancing forwards with great rapidity, passed before the London Regiments, and commenced the attack. They were soon beaten back with some loss. Two guns were then planted against the house, but produced little impression. All Friday was passed in fruitless assaults, the besieged continuing to fire with good aim and effect from behind the breast-work, and from a large window of the house, and Skippon, finding that the garrison would not yield to a sudden attack, ordered huts to be built for his soldiers, with a view to the complete investment of the place. On Saturday morning the siege operations were committed to the Green and Orange Regiments, and re-commenced with vigour. The besiegers found means to place a small gun called a saker advantageously to bear upon the breast-work, and, notwithstanding the loss of one of the gunners shot from the house, and the explosion of their magazine, by which nine men

were wounded, had beaten it down by repeated discharges before the evening. The garrison still held out, awaiting relief, and the next day, Sunday, the Green and Orange Regiments were in their turn relieved by the Northampton forces. Two hours passed, and the fortifications were fast giving way, when Sir John Digby ordered a drummer to the top of the house to sound a parley, but through the eagerness of the besiegers the poor man was shot at, and wounded, but not killed. Sir John then sent out the following proposal for surrender:—

Sir,—As we are determined to carry our selves like gentlemen, and men of honour; so if you will please to consent to conditions fit for such, we shall surrender this place unto you.

The conditions we desire are these

1. That we may march forth with our Armes, Horses, and Baggage, and as well those that have not borne Armes as those that have, may march forth to *Oxford*, in the aforesaid manner, without any violence to be offered, till they arrive at *Oxford*, and have a safe conduct to *Banbury*.

2. That both the Souldiers, and the people of the house, may have two dayes liberty after the surrender of the place to carry away their goods, and the Carts of the Country allowed them in, and the Souldiers may have six houres liberty and the house to remove Bag and Baggage, if you consent that this be made good by those that are here.

JOHN DIGBY.

These terms Major-General Skippon at once refused to grant, and replied to Sir John requiring him immediately—

1. To surrender all your persons, Prisoners, and all Arms, Horses, Standards, Colours, and all Provisions of Warre whatsoever withall that is within the house.

2. That you deliver all those Souldiers of ours, which have been taken prisoners by you, and that if any of our Souldiers, Prisoners, taken by you have suffered in any sort by you, that your Souldiers shall expect the like usage from me.

3. And these things being performed, I shall preserve and set at liberty, all Women, Children, and such other persons as have not bin in armes against us.

4. And all these to be performed by you in one houre, or else present advertisement within one quarter of an houre, after the delivery of these Articles.

PHILIP SKIPTON.

Upon these terms the garrison surrendered, and about two o'clock in the afternoon the besiegers entered the house, which was given up to them to be plundered. The next day, which happened to be Christmas-day, both the temporary huts in which Skippon's army had sheltered, and Grafton House, were burnt to the ground, and the victorious army, thoroughly weary notwithstanding their success, returned to their quarters at Newport, bringing with them their prisoners, whom they soon afterwards forwarded to London.

*(To be continued.)*

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MEMORIAL WINDOW TO Mr. COLLISON,  
NEWPORT PAGNELL.

A richly-stained glass window has just been placed at the east end of the south aisle of the parish Church by the Rev. G. Morley, vicar, to the memory of the late R. Collison, Esq., surgeon, of this place. The design of the window, which is very beautiful, was by Mr. G. E. Street, the Diocesan Architect, the stone-work was executed by Mr. John Greenway, of Leighton Buzzard, and the glass was supplied by Mr. A. Gibbs, 38, Bedford-square, London. The subjects of the four comparts are:—Moses lifting up the brazen serpent; Christ healing the lame man at the pool of Bethesda; Christ giving sight to the blind; and an illustration of the parable of the good Samaritan. Beneath the window is a brass plate with the following inscription:—"This window was erected to the memory of Robert Collison, surgeon, a liberal benefactor to this parish, who died April 3, 1860, aged 78 years, by his grateful friend, George Morley, vicar."

## LAVENDON PRIORY.

The Abbey of Lavendon was founded in the reign of Henry II., by John de Bidun, in honor of John the Baptist.

The family of the Biduns succeeded to the estates of Hugh Beauchamp (Bello Campo) of Lathbury, who had followed William the Conqueror into England, and on whom he had bestowed the Manor of Benges, Herts, three other Manors in Buckinghamshire, and the greater part of forty-three Lordships in Bedfordshire.

This Abbey was of the Premonstratensian Order. The origin of this order is so interesting that I shall give it in the words of Mrs. Jamieson in her legends of the Monastic Orders. "This order," she says "was founded by St. Norbert in the 11th century. He was born at Cologne, was kinsman of the Emperor Henry IV., and though early intended for the ecclesiastical profession, in which the highest dignities awaited his acceptance, for several years he led a dissolute life in the Imperial Court.—One day, as he was riding in pursuit of his pleasures, he was overtaken by a sudden and violent tempest, and, as he looked about for shelter, there fell a ball of fire which exploded at his horse's feet, burnt up the grass, and sank deep into the earth. On recovering his senses, he was struck with dismay when he reflected what might have been his fate in the other world, had he perished in his wickedness. He forsook his evil ways, and began to prepare himself seriously for the life of a priest and a missionary. He sold all his possessions, bestowed the money on the poor, reserving to himself only  $\text{£}$  marks of silver, and a mule to carry the sacred vestments and utensils for the altar; and then, clothed in a lamb's skin, with a hempen cord round his loins, he set out to preach repentance and a new life.

"After preaching for several years through the Northern provinces of France, Hainault, Brabant, and Liege, he assembled around him those whose hearts had been touched by his eloquence, and were resolved to adopt his austere discipline.

"Seeing the salvation of so many committed to his care, he humbly prayed for the divine direction, and thereupon the Blessed Virgin appeared to him in a vision, and pointed out to him a barren and lonesome spot in the valley of Coucy, thence called 'Prè Montrè,' 'Pratum Monstratum,' and hence the name adopted by his community 'Premonstratensian.'

"Their dress was a coarse black tunic, and over it a white woollen cloak, in imitation of the Angels of Heaven who are clothed in 'white garments.'

"St. Norbert lived to count 1,200 members of his community:—was created Archbishop of Magdeburg by the Emperor Lothaire, and after a most active and laborious ministry, died A.D. 1134."

It was not long after his death (1154) that the Abbey at Lavendon was founded, and dedicated to the Premonstratensian Order. In the charter of its foundation preserved in Dugdale's Monasticon, John de Bidun grants the site for the Abbey of St. John the Baptist near to Wardington (Warrington) with the adjacent lands, "Sartum scilicet de Hiltbeye," and 20 acres of land near Walter's bridge, and the park near Tynnockeswade (Tinnock Wood)—his property in the mill, called Hanslapesmilne, and two parts of the tithe of his Lordship of Lavendon; the tithe of his Lordship of Kirkby and Stowe, and all the Churches on his estates—the Church of Lathbury, (de Latebiri) and the Church of Wuttane, and the Church de Seltone—the Church of Stowe, and the Church of Kirkebi, and the Church de Thomestone, and the Church of Lavendon, "de confirmatione sancti Hugonis Linc. Episcopi."

This seems to be the original endowment. I shall now mention the names of other benefactors to the Abbey.

Sibilla de Augervill gave "locum de Snelshall" (Snelson) and the Chapel of Tattenho.

Ranulph, Count of Chester, gave "terram de la Lunde cum toftis et loftis et messuagiis."

Radulph de Bray—the wood of Hatheresey (now Addersley, near Eckley Lane), also a house in Rengo Mercatorum Northampt.

Richard de Wyleford—one hide of Land in Wiggele, and his property in Norhay.

Radulph de Bray—all his property in Hatheresay.

The Wife of Bertram Malme—her property in her mill at Hanslope.

Simon, Son of Guido—xix Selliones (5 sellions make an acre) and 5 acres of land and one messuage cum crofto in Lavendon.

Nicholes de Haversham } All the boscus de Ernesden,  
Robert de Belauny } and the land under it.

Richard de bello campo (Beauchamp)—a parcel of arable land in Monewade in Lathbury.

G. de Holneye—14 acres of land in Lavendon.

Simon de Holneye—6 acres of land in Lavendon.

William de Franciis—X acres of land, and again 13 acres in Lavendon.

Gervase de S. } X roods of meadow land in  
William, Son of Rolland } Fylgrave.

Simon, Son of Hanson—5 acres of land in Bradele, 17 selliones terræ, and 3 roods and  $\frac{1}{2}$  meadow and totum assartum (arable land) in Lavendon.

Ermigard, d. of John de Bidun—all the land of Brunesunde in Lathbury.

John, s. of Roger de Lavendon—7 acres and a half of wood in Lavendon.

Guncod, Son of Robert de Braos—one piece of land in Harewold (Harrold).

At its dissolution in Henry VIII., its revenues were estimated at £79 13s. 8d. net. There were 11 canons, whereof nine were priests, and two novices. Servants 20, whereof waiting servants seven.—Hinds (servants in husbandry) eight; women for the day three; children two. Bells, lead, worth by estimation £73 6s. 8d. The house wholly in ruins. The entire value of moveable goods £37 18s 10d. Stock none—debts none—woods 54 acres, whereof under 20 years growth 50.

Let us now see what account can be given of the disposal of the Abbey property. By patent 7 Edward VI., the King, for the sum of £1315 8s. 10d., paid by Hugh and Thomas Lawe, Haberdashers of London, granted to them tenements and lands belonging to the late Monastery of Lavendon.

The King also granted to Alexander Brett, for £842 11s. 10d., several pastures belonging to Lavendon Abbey in Weston.

Queen Elizabeth granted to Roland Heywood and

Johanna his wife, all the houses and edifices, together with the site and precinct of the late Monastery of Lavendon, 75 acres, being in the field Culverwell; 65 acres in Downfield; 80 in Ten Oak Field; 80 acres in Adersey; 22 acres in Windmill Close; 16 acres in Laundre; 4 acres in Highwood; a waste or common called Pickmead in Warrington, with three watermills in Lavendon; one messuage and tenement in Brayfield; 50 acres of land, and 11 acres of meadow, with the house called the Parsonage in Brayfield, and also the Lordship and Manor of Lavendon and Advowson, Donation and right of presentation to the Church of Lavendon, all belonging to the said Monastery.

The remaining history of the Abbey site may be told in a few words. Sir R. Heywood died 5th December, 1593. His heir sold it to Mr. W. Newton, of Yardley Hastings, Northampton, who, about 1617, sold it to Mr. Robert Eccleston, whose son or grandson sold it to Mr. Thomas Newton, in whose family it remained till Mr. Benjamin Brookes purchased it.

"The Abbey Church is said to have stood in a close above the house, where was a warren of rabbits which burrowed among the ruins, as I learn; but nothing of it is now to be discovered." Feb. 22, 1760.

Joan de Bretagne, Lady Bassett of Drayton, sister of John Duke of Brittany, died 1403, 4th Henry IV., and willed to be buried in the Chancel of Lavendon Abbey.

### TICKFORD ABBEY.

This Abbey, situated about a quarter of a mile north of Newport Pagnell, seems to have been sometimes called Newport St. Mary, and the Abbey of Newport Pagnell. —It was founded in the reign of William Rufus, by Fulk Paganel, Baron Dudley, of the County of Stafford, and Beatrix his wife, as a cell of the Cluniac Monks or Black Canons, and made subject to the Abbey of St. Martin Majoris Monasterii, commonly called Marmonstier of Tours.

It may be proper here, as affording a clue to the history of the Abbey, to say a few words about the history of the Cluniac order. It took its name from Odo Abbot of *Cluni* in Burgundy, A.D. 912., who felt himself constrained to reform many things that seemed to him remiss

in the order of St. Benedict, and to establish a stricter discipline.

William, Earl of Warren, son-in-law to William the Conqueror, first brought these Monks into England, and built the first house at Lewes in Sussex, A.D. 1077.

All the Monasteries of the Order were governed by foreigners—had more French than English Monks in them—were not only subject to the Foreign houses of Cluni, la Charité sur Loire, St. Martin des Champs at Paris, but could be visited by them only. None of their Priors could be elected by their respective convents, but were named by the abovementioned foreign houses. They could not receive the profession of their novices in England, nor could so much as any of their differences be determined here; but they were obliged, in almost all cases, to go to their superiors beyond sea, by which means the greatest part of their revenues were carried to those foreign houses—and, upon that account, during the wars with France, the different establishments of this Order, as not owning allegiance to, or allowing the superintendence and supervision of, the Government at home, were generally seized into the King's hands as *Alien Priories*.

After the petition to Parliament at Winchester, 4th Edward III., these anomalies and inconveniences were by degrees removed. Some of these houses were, in that and the following reign, made denizen, and discharged from all manner of subjection and obedience to the Foreign Abbots, and placed under the Government of Religious houses at home.

Of the number of these Alien Priories of the Cluniac Order was St. Mary of Tickford. On looking over its lists of Abbots, from Robert de Bohun 1187, to Thomas Brooke 1523, we see many names of French origin, till the reign of Henry IV., when it was placed under the jurisdiction of the Holy Trinity at York, founded also by one of the Pagancl family. After that, the Abbots seem to be entirely English till the time of its dissolution in the reign of Henry VIII.

There is nothing particularly worthy of notice that is recorded to have happened in the Abbey, with the exception of a fire which destroyed all the Charters and Muniments of the Abbey.

It was in the reign of Henry VIII. that this Abbey,

together with twenty other small Monasteries, was dissolved by virtue of a Papal Bull, and its revenues, estimated at £126 17s., were bestowed on Cardinal Wolsey, to be annexed to his two Colleges at Oxford and Ipswich. On the fall of the Cardinal, the King bestowed it on Christ Church, Oxford, but it was afterwards resumed by the Crown.

It will be interesting to know what the property of the Abbey was. I shall give an account of it, in the order in which it was bequeathed. The account is taken from the deed of Edward II., confirming the former charters and deeds of gifts, the old deeds having been destroyed by fire.

Fulk Paganell—bequeathed the Manor of Tickford—Monechuset, from the gate of the house to the Cross on the high road; the lands and tenements in the village called the Hawstrete, to the bridge of Tickford, east; Lands, to the River Ouse, south; Castlemete and its fishery between Ildele and Larkebrok, east; Mill of Caldecote, twenty-seven and a half acres of land; Property in Newport; Chapel of Little Linford, and the Mill there, with the tenth of the Eels; Tithe of all his Mills in Newport, with pasture for twelve Cows; Tithe of the Hunting in the Park at Tickford; Meadow called Hoggemede, north of Newport; Rents from Houses in the Mersh juxta Newport; Property in Lathbury, Gayhurst; Rent from a House quod Joannes Berthelmewe tenet in Emberton; Property in Weston—Clifton; “Scyrington, quæ Sampson Clericus quondam tenuit;”<sup>\*</sup> Property in Great and Little Crawley; In Solebury; Lands of Richard de Tours in Wolston and Great Linford; Bradwell; Loughton; Staunton; the Church of Bradwell; the Church of Wilyn; Pensions from Woburn Chapel; Chicheley;† Hand-

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<sup>\*</sup> The Church of Sherington, called also Scyrington, is dedicated to a French Bishop “St. Laud,” (St. Loo in Latin). Laudius was descended from a noble family in the same diocese of which he afterwards became Bishop. About A. D. 528, a little after his consecration, he applied to St. Melanias of Rennes for instructions to advance the glory of God. He was present at the 2nd, 3rd, and 5th Councils of Orleans, and, by proxy, at the 4th. It is said that succeeding to his family estate he enriched his diocese and endowed it with the lands of Briovere, now St. Loo. The holy Bishop governed his diocese with equal zeal and virtue, and went to the reward of his labours in 568.

† There are now pointed out the site of a Chapel, and the remains of the fish-ponds close by Thickthorn.—The Sanatorium is also said to have stood on the site of the adjacent Farm-house.

mede; the Manor of the Kethorne; Astwoode, Church and Lands.—*Ecclesia de Bernak*,\* which paid two marks de nomine pensionis through the “Abbot Petri de Burgo.”

Gervase Paganel—Gave all his property at Chicheley with the consent of his wife, the Countess Isabel. The Chapel de Pettesho; Laverkehrage apud Tickford; Terra de Brocheleshai; De Cadewothe; Medietatem de Cuculmesho; decimam pathnagii de Newport et de Linford—wood to repair and build their Churches and houses.

Giffard de Tyringham—The Church of Tyringham.

Fulk Paganel—The Church of Bridgewater (*Burgewalter de Sumersete*) Hunesfill in Brentemares.

Hawase Paganel—Benefactress of land in Tickford.

Radulph Mansel—Gave lands de Cuculmesho.

John de Somery—Gave to the Prior and Convent of Tickford the right of fishing in the River Lovent.

Giles Erdington—Died in 1270—a great benefactor to Tickford Abbey, who had, in memory whereof, a monk to sing here for his soul and the souls of his parents.

These seem to have been the chief endowments of the Abbey, so far as I have been able to discover; and it will only remain for us to say how all these possessions were disposed of by the Crown at the dissolution.

In 1541, the King granted to Anthony Cave, the manor of the late dissolved Priory of Tickford. In the same year the possessions of the Priory, of Moulsoe, Great and Little Linford, Stewkley, Little and Bow Brickhill, Wavendon, North Crawley, and Swanbourne were, by Act of Parliament, annexed to the Manor of Amptill,† then erected into a Royal Honor.

In 1573, Queen Elizabeth leased it for 21 years to George Annesley, Gentleman, of Newport Pagnell, and James, his son. Before the expiration of the lease, however, it was granted in fee by patent 11th November, 1592, to

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\* *Ecclesia de Bernaches*—now *Barnack* near Stamford. Cir. A.D. 1193 Hubert, Archbishop of Canterbury granted to the Monks of Newport the presentation of Gervase Paganel to the Church of Bernaches.

† This Honor having been since given to the Russells, the Duke of Bedford, as Lord thereof, holds inquests by a coroner of his own appointment in the present hamlet of Tickford, and a portion of Marsh End, as well as in nine other manors expressed in this grant.

Thomas Compton, Robert Wright, and Gelley Meyrick, Esq., at the instance of that unhappy favourite, Robert Earl of Essex ; but, by his attainder, reverting to the Crown, it was sold to Sir John Fortescue, Knight of Salden, Chancellor of the Exchequer, who, during the short period of his possession of this property, became remarkably conspicuous in the County from his electioneering contest with Sir Francis Goodwin. He was also so unfortunate as to have been taken prisoner in May, 1644, by Sir Samuel Luke, Governor of Newport, by whom he was surprized near Islip.

In 1600, Queen Elizabeth granted to Henry Adkins, M. D., for £1584 6s. (together with the Rectory of Newport Pagnel), the Manor or Lordship of Tickford Abbey, including the Mansion House of the Manor or late Priory of Tickford, with the Manor of Caldecote and all thereto belonging.

In 1621, Dr. Adkins purchased the property (for £4500) of Lady Fortescue, the widow of Sir John.

In 1623, King James I. granted to him all those Closes of Meadow and Pasture in Newport and Lathbury, late parcel of the Manor of Newport—Bury Close, Bury Field, Bury Meadow, the Kickles, and other lands.

In 1625, the Doctor died, whereupon his Estates descended to his son and heir, Sir Richard Adkins, Bart. He died in 1628.

In 1628, the Manor was sold by the family to the Uthwatts, of Linford, and by them to Sir William Hart, Knight. —Mr. Jaques purchased it of the heirs of Sir William Hart, whose widow was married to Frederick Hendrick Van Hagen, Esq., and held by him in her right.

In 1758, Thomas Hooton, Esq., purchased Tickford Abbey. He devised it to his only daughter, the wife of Philip Hoddle Ward, Esq., from whom it came, by purchase, into the possession of the present owner, William Powell, Esq.

April 1, 1767, Browne Willis writes—

“ In 1719, the original gateway was standing, consisting of a large and small arch at the entrance into the Convent, with some few remains of the old building, besides five or six pillars which had supported the nave of the Priory

Church with the arches which had been turned over them.

"Thomas Hooton erected, in a retired part of the grounds, traditionally the site of the ancient conventual Church, a building twelve feet high, designed as a burial place for his family. This ground, having been the burial place of the Monks, is considered as sacred, and the burial service, as prescribed in the Liturgy of the Church of England, is performed by a clergyman."

These are the only records that remain to us of these two Abbeys of Lavendon and Tickford. The interest that attaches to them must be drawn rather from their locality than from their intrinsic worth. No work of piety or of genius, produced by any of their Abbots, has come down to us; their names alone are recorded: they might have been great in their day and generation, but they have passed away like a tale that is told, and have left scarcely a trace behind them. Ah! how idle a boast, after all, is the immortality of a name! Time is ever silently turning over his pages; we are too much engrossed by the story of the present to think of the characters and anecdotes that gave interest to the past, and each age is a volume thrown aside to be speedily forgotten. The idol of to-day pushes the hero of yesterday out of our recollection, and will in turn be supplanted by his successor of to-morrow. "Our Fathers," says Sir Thomas Brown, "find their graves in our short memories, and sadly tell us how we may be buried in our survivors." History fades into fable—fact becomes clouded with doubt and controversy:—the inscription moulders from the tablet; the statue falls from the pedestal—columns, arches, pyramids,—what are they but heaps of sand, and their epitaphs but characters written in the dust? What is the security of the tomb, or the perpetuity of an embalment? The remains of Alexander the Great have been scattered to the wind, and his empty sarcophagus is now the mere curiosity of a Museum! The Egyptian mummies which Cambyzes or time have spared, avarice now consumes—Mizraim cures wounds, and Pharaoh is sold for balsams. The coffin of Edward the Confessor in Westminster Abbey has been broken open, and his remains despoiled of their funereal ornaments: the sceptre has been stolen from the hand of the imperious Elizabeth, and the effigy of Henry V. lies

headless. Not a royal monument but bears some proof how false and fugitive is the homage of mankind.—[*Washington Irving.*].—And yet, how useful—how wholesome is the study of bygone times and places! How captivating to escape from the common place realities of the present, and to lose ourselves amid the gigantic shadows of antiquity; and, forgetting the present, to rove amidst the places of former greatness, and people them again with their lordly residents! To walk over the well-marked outlines of Lavendon Castle, with its wide moat, and fancy that the name of Peover\* still echoes within its renovated walls, and its donjon still keeps its watch and ward—to wander by the place where once its Abbey stood, and amidst the ruins of houses that once clustered around its hallowed shrine, to seem to catch again the sweet and swelling notes of praise!

How sweet and refreshing, as we cast our eyes over the gently undulating slopes of Chicheley, and bend our steps towards its Sanatorium and Chapel—or from its heights cast our eyes over the well wooded and well watered Sanctuary of Tickford, with its winding Ouse and the sparkling Lovent—to remember that it was amid the same scenes and on the same soil that the Biduns and Paganels once lived and walked—whilst, as we bend our steps towards the place where its Abbey once stood, who would suppress the feeling that he is still walking on hallowed ground—that the spirit of peace and holy calm, and quiet serenity still hovers about it—that each stone becomes a chronicle, speaking of the times that are past—connecting us with the mighty dead, and seeming to exhort us that “Whatsoever *our* hand findeth to do, we should do it with all our might—knowing that there is no device, or work, or knowledge, or wisdom in the grave whither *we* are hastening.”

“This may be superstition weak and wild,  
But e’en the faintest relics of a Shrine  
Of any worship wake some thoughts divine.”

C. G. HULTON.

*Emberton,*  
*March 11, 1861.*

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\* The life of Roger Peover, Bishop of Salisbury, (Henry I., 1107) equals in interest, and is not very dissimilar to, the fortunes of Cardinal Wolsey.—See *Godwin de Præsulibus*.

## THE GARRISON OF NEWPORT PAGNELL DURING THE CIVIL WARS.

BY REV. H. ROUNDELL.

*(Continued from page 216.)*

The year 1644 opened with new prospects and some changes for this garrison. Early in January, the London forces, consisting of the Orange and Green Regiments of the Trained Bands with the Auxiliaries of Southwark, and the City Regiment of Red Coats, left Newport on their march homewards. They journeyed by easy stages, and on Friday, the 12th instant, made a triumphal entry into London, being met by the Sheriffs and many of the Committee for the Militia and Common Councilmen of the City.\* Their vacant quarters at Newport were speedily occupied by the new levies raised by the Earl of Manchester from the Associated Counties, and the security of the garrison seemed for the present to be assured by the departure of the Royal troops from the immediate neighbourhood. Charles the First, it is well known, was then endeavouring to refill the ranks of his enfeebled army, and to this end, notwithstanding the farsighted expostulations of Rupert, was withdrawing his soldiers from the towns and forts garrisoned in his cause, which had hitherto greatly strengthened him both by dividing the attention of the enemy, and commanding the country in their several neighbourhoods. In pursuance of this policy the Regiment at Stony Stratford was called back to Oxford, the strong body of troops at Towcester marched into Gloucestershire, and the fortifications of that town, which had cost Rupert such labour to erect, and had proved too strong for the combined forces of Newport and Northampton to attack, were utterly dismantled within a few months after their completion. Well aware of their immunity from attack or reprisal, the new levies of the Earl of Manchester had scarcely settled themselves at

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\* *Perfect Diurnall*, Monday, January 8, to January 16th, 1644.

Newport, before they sent out Captain Abercromby with a party of about one hundred men to reconnoitre in the neighbourhood of Buckingham. He had intelligence of a small outpost of the enemy quartered at Sir Alexander Denton's house at Hillesden, about three miles southward of the town of Buckingham. And, acting under the orders of the Governor of Newport, Captain Abercromby hastened to attack them, but the Royalist troops having timely notice of the intended surprise retreated in the direction of their own garrison of Banbury, and took up a position at Westbury, near Brackley. Captain Abercromby thus easily possessed himself of the House at Hillesden, and thence issued the following Warrants for supplies for his men :—

To the Constables of Brackley and other the inhabitants.—

These are straightly to charge and command you forthwith upon sight hereof to bring into my Quarters at Hilsdon the summe of forty pounds without any further delay by vertue of an Order received from His Excellency the Earle of Essex, and let not the hope of being protected by the enemy deceive you, for unless you bring it in according to the time prefixed, which is tommorrow by ten of the clocke, being the 23rd of this instant moneth January, I will come to fetch it and will not leave you a Cocke to crow among you.

JECAMIAH ABERCROMBY.

Hillsdon, the 22 of  
January, 1643.

Due obedience does not appear to have been rendered to this peremptory order, which was therefore followed by another five days later in date.

Hillsden, the 27th of January, 1643.

These are to command and charge you forthwith to bring upon sight hereof into my quarters the summe of three score pounds, forty pounds by vertue of an Order from His Excellency, the Earl of Essex, and twenty pounds by reason of the fail hereof, and that you shall return me the names of those that shall be obstinate. Hereof fail not as you shall answer at your perill. Also you shall bring in provisions for 200 horse and men for two

dayes. Herein likewise fail not, as you shall answer at your utmost perill.

JECAMIAH ABERCROMBY.

To the Constable and Inhabitants of Brackley.\*

This Warrant also proving ineffectual, Captain Abercromby, (who it may be noticed, afterwards dying from wounds received during a marauding expedition near Borstall, was buried at Hillesden) marched the Newport troopers to execute the threatened vengeance on the delinquents of Brackley. He penetrated as far as Astwell in Northamptonshire, where he took Sir Charles Shirley prisoner, and on his return passed near the quarters of the Royal troops at Westbury. There he met Captain Peter Dayrell who quickly challenged him, asking, "Whom he was for." Abercromby made no answer, but drew the trigger of his pistol, which missed fire. Captain Dayrell instantly called out a party of troopers, and pursued Abercromby, who had made the best of his way forwards sending however Sir Charles Shirley in advance with a small guard, a precaution which prevented his escape. For on Temple's overtaking them, the Parliamentary force offered a faint resistance, and were soon dispersed; fourteen of them were taken, and Abercromby himself vainly endeavouring to ride away was pursued by Captain Dayrell, after a brief struggle pulled from his horse and made prisoner. This affair happened on Friday, the fourth of February.†

The Ordinance of the prece'ling year for the fortification of Newport had placed the appointment of a Governor in the hands of the Earl of Essex, to whom Major-General Skippon wrote from Newport under date of the 25th of January, begging to be released from any further command there. "Even now heere," he says, "we have little less than a mutinie among our soldiers for a moneths pay, although they never wanted one weekes pay since wee came hither, except onely last Tuesdaies, w<sup>h</sup> scraping and borrowing, we gott up and payd them this day, by w<sup>h</sup> your Ex<sup>ty</sup> may see in w<sup>ht</sup> a condition we are even in this respect alsoe, soe y<sup>t</sup> except we

\* *Mercurius Aulicus*, The Sixth Week ending February 10th, 1643.

† *Mercurius Aulicus*, The Seventh Week ending February 17th, 1643.

“ may suddaynly share of some reliefe that wee hope to  
“ have from the pay w<sup>h</sup> wee heare is coming for your  
“ Ex<sup>ties</sup> provision wee shall be subiected to no small  
“ mischiefe. Oh, y<sup>t</sup> I might find soe much favour from  
“ your Ex<sup>ties</sup> to be commanded hence, where my burden  
“ is too great for me to beare!”\* Skippon’s request was  
granted, and in his place Lord Essex selected for this  
charge Sir Samuel Luke, one of his own warmest friends  
and adherents. Luke’s personal appearance was far from  
prepossessing. He was between forty and fifty years of  
age, short in stature, and somewhat deformed in person;  
and besides these defects he still further disfigured him-  
self by wearing a long and grizzled beard, in fulfilment it  
has been alledged, of a foolish vow. He and his father,  
Sir Oliver Luke, both of them members of the Long  
Parliament, were rigid Presbyterians, and scarcely admit-  
ted other persons to hold religious opinions different from  
their own. This narrowness of mind in Sir Samuel Luke  
did not impair his military abilities; on the contrary, perhaps  
it rather enhanced them, for he was very precise and  
methodical, strict in discipline to a fault, if indeed military  
discipline could be too strict in such licentious times; and  
though he frequently showed himself to be captious and  
obstinate, he was withal remarkably active and intelligent,  
able to draw rapid and accurate conclusions from the con-  
flicting information daily reaching him, and successful in  
the management of his spies, a capacity which had gained  
for him the post of Scout Master General in the Army.  
He had seen some service in the Civil Wars. At the  
battle of Edge Hill he held a commission to command  
sixty horse, and had fought in the victorious right wing  
of Lord Essex’s army, and in the following December  
obtained an order from the House of Commons to recruit  
his troop in Bedfordshire. The next spring he had been  
employed on outpost duty at Uxbridge, where his zeal  
in apprehending and searching the Duke de Vendosme on  
his way to Oxford with a pass from Parliament, had nearly  
brought upon him the censure of his superiors; but two  
months afterwards he regained his credit by seizing sixty-two  
pounds, belonging to Mr Justice Croke, and intended for

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\* *Tanner’s MSS, in Bodleian Library. No. 62, folio 512.*

the use of the King's army.\* Sir Samuel was present at the skirmish in Chelgrove Field, where Hampden received his fatal wound, and was said to have been three times taken prisoner on that occasion, and as often rescued by his own soldiers.† After this he appears to have continued with the army in Buckinghamshire, raising fresh levies for his troop out of Bedfordshire by means of a Warrant dated from Leighton Buzzard on the first of July, 1643, which may be found printed in Mr Joseph Staines' *History of Newport*, page 78, "a good and acceptable service" for which he received the thanks of the House of Commons, accompanied moreover with the significant remark "And no Matter of Complaint came to this House against the said Gentleman touching this business" (*Commons Journals* 5, Julii, 1643. vol. 3. p. 156.)‡

Upon his appointment to the Governorship Luke energetically set himself to provide for the security of Newport, and to be otherwise serviceable to the Parliament. A Corporal's guard was stationed at Olney with stringent orders to apprehend and search all suspected persons. Paid spies were sent into Oxfordshire and Berkshire, and though one of them, Francis Cole, was discovered and executed,|| others more fortunate, enabled Sir Samuel to communicate constant and reliable intelligence of the movements and quarterings of the Royalist force in Oxford and its neighbourhood to the Speaker of the House of Commons, and to the Earls of Essex and Manchester during the whole period of his Governorship at Newport. Among other news, tidings soon reached Luke that immediately after the capture of Abercromby and the defeat of his party, Colonel Smith of the King's Army, and Sir Alexander Denton, had gone to Hillesden and were repairing and fortifying the House as a permanent garrison. Luke soon collected an overpowering force, and marched to Hillesden, which capitulated to him after a short resistance. Unhappily for his own character he sullied his victory by violating the promise of quarter to the garrison,

\* *Commons Journals*, Maii 29o, 1643.

† *The Parliament Scout*, Tuesday 20 June, to Tuesday 27 June, 1643.

‡ For additional notices of Sir Samuel Luke see the *Gentleman's Magazine* for 1823, vol. 93, pages 28 and 122.

|| *Mercurius Aulicus*, the Weeke ending January 13th, 1643.

many of whom were mercilessly put to death after the surrender, and their bodies interred in a large pit at the foot of the mutilated Cross, still standing in Hillesden Churchyard.\* Further particulars of the attack and capitulation of this House will be found at page 93 of this Volume of the RECORDS, but the following Dispatch to the Earl of Essex, which does not appear to have been published in any of the Memorials of that period, nor occurs in the Correspondence of Luke in the British Museum, deserves insertion. The original letter is preserved in the Bodleian Library among the Tanner MSS. —*Tanner Papers. 1643. Vol. 2. 4<sup>to</sup> folio 591.*

“ May it please your Excell<sup>ty</sup>

“ The last night after the Arivall of ye forces at Padbury  
 “ Coll Cromwell sent out a p-ty to give an Alarum at  
 “ Hilsden Howse, which was p-formed, and wrought y<sup>e</sup>  
 “ desired effect this morning between five and 6 of ye  
 “ Clocke, they all Arrived before Hilsden Howse, and  
 “ while Lieut Generall Cromwell, and maior generall  
 “ Craford was putting ye forces in order ye howse sounded  
 “ a parley, which was granted to them And Lieut Generall

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\* On this affair Lipscombe has the following passage, which seems to require some notice. “ In 1643, information was sent to London, that “ *Hillesden House, the seat of Sir Alexander Denton, was taken by the Parliamentary Forces. It had been garrisoned in 1641, for King Cha. I. and its situation, about fifteen miles from Oxford, and eight from Aylesbury, having rendered it a place of importance; it was taken by a party detached from Newport Pagnell and the vicinity of Banbury, said to have been not more than one hundred in number, although there were in the house one hundred and forty, of whom many were taken prisoners, with about one hundred stand of arms: but Sir Alexander Denton himself effected his escape.*”—*History of Buckinghamshire, vol. 3. p. 18.*—It would be difficult to comprehend more inaccuracies within the limits of one paragraph. Sir Alexander Denton first commenced the fortification of Hillesden House in February, 1644.—The victorious army of the Parliament was composed of troops from Aylesbury, Northampton, Newport, and the Associated Counties, certainly not less than two thousand in number.—Sir Alexander Denton did not escape. He was taken a prisoner the same evening, being the 4th of March, to Padbury, the next day to Newport, afterwards sent to London, committed to the Tower on the 16th of March, removed on his own Petition to Lord Petre's house on the 3rd of June, and died in prison in December, 1644.—Lipscombe has obviously confounded the temporary occupation of Hillesden by Abercromby in January, 1644, with the attack and capture of the House by Luke, Cromwell, and others in March, two months later; and, having carelessly overlooked the date, taken his account from a Parliamentary Newspaper, *The Scottish Dove, Friday, January 12th, to Friday, January 19th, 1644*, which he has copied almost verbatim.

" Cromwell sent to them, and p-mised to them a safe Con-  
 " duct to any man y<sup>t</sup> they would send to treat: thereupon  
 " their brave Generall Coll Smith sent out to them his  
 " Lieut. Coll Curter, a dutchman, who demanded of us  
 " a safe Conduct with bagge and Baggage to Oxford, y<sup>e</sup>  
 " Quarter master Generall Vermuden was ordered by  
 " Lieut Generall to treat with him, who Assured him all  
 " they must expect was quarter, whereupon ye brave Lieu-  
 " Coll returned, and in disdaine prepared for our Coming,  
 " wee also prepared for an Assault. Ye Maior generall  
 " ordered ye foot to fall on in foure p<sup>ts</sup>, which was done  
 " with y<sup>t</sup> brave resolution y<sup>t</sup> I never saw anything better  
 " p-formed, in lesse than a quarter of an houres time, they  
 " made themselves masters of y<sup>e</sup> workes and howse, with  
 " the Losse of not above 6 men besides what were hurt on  
 " our side, and above 30 of theirs, in the howse wee tooke  
 " S<sup>t</sup> Alexander Denton, Coll Smith, with many other  
 " officers and souldiers, the number whereof is yet  
 " unknowne to us, we also tooke 13 barrell of powder with  
 " match and ball p-portionable, ye Cellars full of good beere,  
 " ye Stables full of horses, and yards full of oxen and  
 " beastes, this hath y<sup>e</sup> Lord done for us this day his name  
 " for ever have y<sup>e</sup> honour and glory of it, we had no officer  
 " killed or hurt save onely Coll Pickering and y<sup>t</sup> onely a  
 " Little chocke under ye Chin with a musquet bullet but  
 " thanks be to god he was drest before I came away and  
 " was very merry and chearfull, ye Lieut. General left  
 " 200 of Newport foot under Maior Bradbury in ye howse  
 " till he shall have further directions and they are all re-  
 " turned to their old quarters this night from whence they  
 " came, to wit: winslow, padbury, and other places there-  
 " abouts, the Enemies horse being abroad tooke some of  
 " ours, and wee some of theirs and one a Captaine Walton  
 " (as I heare) was killed, thus begging leave to kisse your  
 " Excell<sup>t</sup> hand I rest

" Newport 4<sup>o</sup> March,

Your Excellency his

" 1643 8 at night

most humble seruant

" Coll Smith Assured us they expected

" releife and therefore fired ye house this

" morning as if they intended to make a

" Burgaine Leaguer of it.

SAM. LUKE."

After this success Luke returned to Newport and busied himself in strengthening the fortifications. The main defences of the place consisted of earth-works, thrown up under Skippon's orders, and these, wanting solidity from the haste with which they had been constructed, had given way in many places under the torrents of rain which had fallen in December and January. Luke was ill supplied with materials, and a memorandum in his letter-book, written in February, 1644, shows him to have been then in need of "three hundred shovells and spades, two hundred pickaxes, five hundred wheelebarrows, four hundred spars, and one thousand deale boards."\* To add to his difficulties the Earl of Manchester had called upon him to raise one hundred horse, and the only Member of the Buckinghamshire Committee, then resident in the County, Sir William Andrews, refused to give any assistance in this business, and besides this, a sum of £200 voted for Newport by both Houses of Parliament was paid to Major General Skippon for past charges. Lord Manchester had indeed written to the Commons from Cambridge on the second of March, requesting attention to the state of Newport, and his Letter was read in the House on the seventh inst., and the messenger that brought it directed to communicate with the Committee for the Garrison of Aylesbury, but the Commons Journals do not show that any assistance was in consequence sent to the garrison.† The good fortune at Hillesden seemed a fair ground of claim for some supplies for Newport, and on the eleventh of March, Luke writes to the Speaker of the House of Commons.

*Honored Sr,*

*I cannot but let you understand ye state of this Garrison, w<sup>h</sup> is thus; My Lord of Manchester hath neere completed ye number of foote, but as yet there is but only one troope of horse, w<sup>h</sup> is under ye Command of Capt<sup>n</sup>. Temple, His Excellency (I humbly thanke him) hath given mee liberty to have mine owne here with mee, but it being not mounted nor armed, if it were heere would bee uselesse, therefore I hope you will not blame mee, though you heere*

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\* Egerton MS. in Brit. Mus. No. 785 folio 4.

† Commons Journals, 7<sup>o</sup> Martii, 1643.

nothing of ye Enemies coming to Newport, till hee be here : ye workes are not halfe finishd nor any Ordnance planted upon either Rampires or Bulworkes, neither can there bee any place fitted for yem but wth a greate deale of tyme and a greate deale of charge ; not any of y<sup>e</sup> Counties as yet have p<sup>d</sup> any of their p-portions for the workes save only Bedford, Buckingham and Hertford ; I have writ to y<sup>e</sup> severall Committees of y<sup>e</sup> Associated Counties, and y<sup>e</sup> E: of Manchester (I humbly thanke him) hath taken greate care for ye passing yem forwards, in sending in their first p-portion, according to ye ordinance but they are so slow, y<sup>t</sup> I know nothing of yem as yett, though it is above a weeke since I first writ to yem : and when it comes, it will doe but little good, seeing y<sup>t</sup> (as ye workmen assure) double p-portions will hardly doe the workes. ye woods y<sup>t</sup> was allotted to be cut downe for y<sup>e</sup> use of this garrison by y<sup>e</sup> Major Generall and Co<sup>t</sup>. Tirrill (with ye consent of ye Committees of y<sup>e</sup> County) is now almost at an end, and I havinge noe power concerning it, shall not doe anything in it without order because ye preseruaton thereof (I am confident) is of greate consequences to this Kingdome. ye Gentry hereabouts have writ to Co<sup>l</sup>. Tirrill concerning it. I beseech you, S<sup>r</sup>, put to your helping hand, y<sup>t</sup> some such course may bee taken y<sup>t</sup> y<sup>e</sup> Sold<sup>r</sup> may not be driven to extravagancies for want of it, nor y<sup>e</sup> State Damnified by excessive waste, S<sup>r</sup>, in tendering these to ye consideration of ye house and procuring their speedy resolution and Com-mands thereupon you will oblige y<sup>e</sup> whole Country to you, and myselfe more pticularly, who shall most chearefully and willingly adventure my life and fortune in securing this place so far as I shall be enabled and shall never be other than yore most humble seruant.

S. L.

New : 11 Mar, 1643.

S<sup>r</sup>, our Master workeman hath been this fortnight attending upon ye Committee for tooles and other neces-saries for this garrison, ye delaye of y<sup>e</sup><sup>m</sup> may prove of worse consequence than you imagine, his absence I am sure is very pjudiciall, and his presence without yem will little helpe us.\*

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\* Egerton MS. No. 785. folio 12 B.

At this period the Parliament was sorely pressed for want of means. The Counties espousing their side were exhausted by continual exactions, and Hertfordshire had set the example of petitioning to be relieved from the monthly taxations. The House of Commons was attempting to raise money, by borrowing from all quarters, postponing the repayment of a loan from the Merchant Adventures, selling the "copes, surplices, and superstitious vestments" of Westminster Abbey, sequestrating the revenues of St. Paul's Cathedral and the Colleges at Oxford, levying heavy fines upon the Estates of Delinquents and Papists, cutting down and selling their timber, and increasing the excise duty on Tobacco. The large sums thus raised, were unequal to the expenditure; the Scots army required to be provisioned, Sir William Waller was unable to march for want of pay, and even had these demands been satisfied, the House of Commons determined that the necessities of the garrisons of Aylesbury, Wycombe, Farnham Castle, and Windsor, were more pressing than those of Newport. They resolved however that letters should be written to the several Counties contributory to the garrison at Newport Pagnell to enjoin them forthwith to provide materials for the completion of the fortifications,\* and to raise the proportions of men set upon them, and the monies for their maintenance.† And simultaneously with this Order of the House, Sir Samuel put in force in behalf of his own garrison the warrant for the sequestration of the Estates of Delinquents and Papists, requiring all Rents in the neighbourhood of Newport, due from any Ecclesiastical or University Endowment to be paid to him within eight days after the 17th of April, ‡ a proceeding, which, coupled with the numerous similar Warrants issued by Officers of the Parliament, brought out John Taylor's *Lecture to the People* addressed to the Farmers of Bucks and Oxon.

Your crests are fallen down  
And now your journeys to the Market Towne  
Are not to sell your Pease, your Oates, your Wheate;

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\* The draft of this letter, not printed in the Journals of either House—may be found in the Bodleian Library at Oxford. *Tanner MS., No. 62. folio 643.*

† *Commons Journals*, 18<sup>o</sup> Aprilis, 1644.

‡ *History of Newport Pagnell*, by Joseph Staines, page 80.

But of nine Horses stolne from you t' intreat  
 But one to be restor'd : and this yee doe  
 To a buff'd Captaine, or perhaps unto  
 His surly Corporall. [Page 5.]  
 Have ye no Burthens now ? o happy Men,  
 The twentieth Part ye 'ave paid, the Fifth, and when  
 Your new Task-Masters shal be pleas'd to call  
 And say ye are Delinquents, Farewell All :  
 New Victories coyn'd to cheat ye every houre  
 Your Purss must bleed so long as they have Power  
 To lye, your Taxes to the Garrisons,  
 The Pressing and the Slaughter of your Sonnes  
 Secret Benevolences, and to these  
 To top up all, but Fifty Subsidies. [Page 13.]

Towards the end of May, Luke sent Captain Temple and his troop of horse to reconnoitre near Oxford, and he hearing of a squadron of the Royalist Cavalry at Islip, fell upon them in their quarters about six o'clock on the morning of the 28th, and took, as some accounts say, *forty* or as others *ten* prisoners, and captured eighteen Bales of Cloth.\* It was surmized that notwithstanding this success, he would have been brought to a Court Martial by Sir Samuel Luke for having exceeded his orders, but such an intention if it existed, was anticipated by Captain Temple's being called into the House of Commons, when "Mr. Speaker, by the Command of the House, acquainted him, "That the House took notice of this late great Service done by him, and the other Services formerly done by him at *Newport Pagnall*; and do give him Thanks for it: And have taken Order for the Payment of the Arrears."†

On the same day a Committee of Eighteen Members was appointed to deliberate on the state of the garrison and to settle some means for the regular payment of the soldiers and of Captain Temple's troop; but this Committee appears to have very quickly abandoned its duties, for within a week afterwards another Order of the House occurs, directing the Committee for Newport Pagnell to be revived and meet the next day. More active than its predecessor, this Committee obtained for Luke a commis-

\* *Perfect Diurnall*, June 3rd, 1644, and *Mercurius Aulicus*, May 25th, 1644.

† *Commons Journals*, 30<sup>o</sup> Maii. 1644.

sion to be Colonel over the 1200 foote garrisoning Newport, induced the House of Commons to vote £500 to Captain Temple, to send a Brass Culverin of 41 0 7, and a Demi Culverin of 40 0 25, to Newport instead of Two Sacres and one Drake previously there, which were ordered to be forwarded to Tamworth Castle, and to give Luke leave with the consent of the Committee for Bucks or any two of them, to fell as much timber upon the lands of Papists and Delinquents, as he required, for the better fortification of the garrison.\*

It proved fortunate for Luke that he had timely strengthened his fortifications. On the 3rd of June in this year the King set out from Oxford on his Worcestershire expedition, and after reaching Bewdly, returned by forced marches to Oxford, by the 20th inst., and then uniting all his troops, marched to Buckingham, quartering there for several days and sending out the Earl of Cleaveland with a Brigade of Horse to occupy Stony Stratford and survey the fortifications of Newport. No serious attack on Newport appears to have been meditated, but the Earl of Cleaveland, after intercepting a valuable convoy of Provisions at Little Brickhill, advanced within range of Luke's Culverins, which were ineffectually discharged at his troop.† This was the nearest approach ever made by the King's troops to Newport. The Royal Army soon drew away from Buckingham, and the Battle of Cropredy Bridge followed.

During the remainder of the summer Luke appears to have been actively engaged in maintaining the fortifications, and urgently pressing for supplies of money for payment of his troops. If the scale of pay to the garrison of Windsor can be adopted as a criterion of that of Newport, a Colonel's pay was XLV shillings per diem; a Captain's XV; a Lieutenant's IV; an Ensign's III; a Corporal's I; and a Gunner's II; and at these rates the monthly allowance of four thousand pounds would not more than suffice for the maintenance of the garrison at its full complement of twelve hundred foot and three hundred horse, and the necessary repairs of the earthworks. And the supplies

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\* *Commons Journals*, 10c Junii. 1644.

† *His Majesty's Happy Progress and Success, from the 30th of March, to the 23rd of November, 1644*, by Sir Edward Walker, 1705. p. 29.

still continuing scanty and irregular both Houses of Parliament joined in another Order to the Associated Contributory Counties under date of the 15th of July.

"Gentlemen,

"The Houses have received several Informations, as well from the Committee of both Kingdoms, as from Sir *Samuell Luke*, Governor of *Newport Pagnell*, of the great Wants of that Garrison, both of Men and Money, occasioned by your not sending thither the Proportions to which you are bound by the Ordinance of Parliament: They are very sensible of the great Consequence of that Garrison, both for the Association of my Lord of *Manchester*, and for the City of *London*; and of the great Danger that may happen in case you do not speedily send in your Proportions of armed Men and Money, for the Works there, and for the Payment of the Soldiers according to the said Ordinance: They have, therefore, commanded us to require you immediately to put the Ordinance in Execution, by sending thither your Proportions of armed Men and Money unto the Governor there; and that you take Care also to send in thither an able sufficient Man, to be of the Committee there, to see your Money distributed amongst your Soldiers, from Time to Time, as you shall send it. The Houses take Notice of your former Failings therein. They now expect your speedy Performance; which when you have done, those of your associated Forces which are now there may be useful in some other Service. This is all that we have in Command to require of you; which hoping you will perform, we rest."

"This Letter sent to these Counties, *Buckingham, Bedford, North'ton, Huntingdon, Cambridge, Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, Hertford*."\*

Three months elapsed from the date of this letter before the House of Commons found it necessary to reiterate their demand upon the reluctant Counties, and therefore it may be presumed that some supplies of men and money reached Newport. At any rate Sir Samuel found himself strong enough at the end of July to send out Ennis, one of his Captains, and his troop to Bicester, where they

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\* *Lords Journals*, 15 Julii, 1644.

succeeded in surprising a small party of Royalists, all of whom, after a short skirmish in which their Lieutenant was shot by Ennis, yielded themselves prisoners, and were brought back to Newport.\* And in September Luke adopted the plan of compelling the Constables of the Parishes and Hundreds near Newport to send in each a certain number of workmen to labour upon the fortifications; the Constables of Winnersley Hundred were to send in *one hundred able labouring men with mattocks, spades and shovells to come and work upon this garrison upon Monday next and to continue until the fortifications be completed at the charge of the several towns from whence they come*; the Constables of Evershall were to send in "*all the labourers in their town, one out of each family and all the teames and carts in their town to Newport on the following Saturday by seven, A.M., and the Constables of Clifton, twelve carpenters and twelve masons by the Monday following to remain there till discharged.*"†

It was during this summer that Colonel Gage had retaken the fortified House at Borstall, and garrisoned it strongly enough to resist the attack of Waller's whole army, and the vicinity of this hostile outpost, so dangerous to Aylesbury and Newport, coupled with the presence of Charles at Oxford, required the greatest vigilance from Sir Samuel. Having timely intelligence of the King's intended march towards Woodstock and Bicester, he obtained a fresh supply of arms from the Parliament,‡ recalled one of his Majors with his company of foot from Northampton, stationed Captain Ennis at Sherrington, and Captain Andrews at Emberton, with orders to the latter to send out ten or twelve horse into the enemies quarters; Lieutenant Caldecourt was commanded to repair beyond Buckingham and intercept the supplies going to the King's army, and Quarter Master Crane sent with thirty horse to Winslow to aid Colonel Vermudon in an intended foray into Oxfordshire, and to quarter afterwards at Great Linford.§ The orders for these movements and quarterings were issued at the end of November and the first week

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\* *Perfect Occurrences*, August 9—16th, 1644.

† Egerton MS., No. 785, folio 33 b.

‡ *Commons Journals*, 18<sup>o</sup> Novembris, 1644.

§ Egerton MS., No. 785, folio 94.

in December, after the arrival of Colonel Massey's reinforcements, who occupied Passenham, Wolverton, Lathbury, Brickhill, and other adjoining villages. From one of the publications of the period the positions of the respective Armies in Buckinghamshire and the adjoining Counties at the end of the year 1644 are enumerated, mainly, it may be conjectured, from information derived from Sir Samuel Luke.

"The Garrison (of Borstall)," says the writer, "is amongst the pastures in the fat of that fertile Country, which though heretofore hath been esteemed the Garden of England is now much wasted by being burthened with finding provision for two armys, for  
"The King's Quarters are at

Buckingham	Straton Audley
Sommerton	Brackley
Winslow	Brill
Bicester	Hadenham
Thame	And some other Villages
Islip	in and adjacent to
Chippingworth	this County.
"The Parliament's forces are also quartered at	
Alisbury	Stoke
Hartwell	Wendover
Etherop	Elsborough
Newport	Missenden
Winge	Amersham
Bierton	Chesham
Wadsden	Lee
Layton	St. Leonards and other Villages.

"These forces are thus quartered to prevent the enemy from spoyling the hither part of that County or of making any inroad into the County of Hartford or getting any nearer the City of London."\*

(To be continued.)

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\* *Weekly Account*, Wednesday, January 1st, to Wednesday, January 8th, 1645.

## THE ANTIQUITIES OF WESTON TURVILLE.

By REV. A. ISHAM.

The history of Weston Turville is identified with the Roman occupation of Britain by the discovery of coins within the boundaries of the Parish, and of an interment, which came to light in May, 1855.

The coins are of Vespasianus, Trajanus Adrianus, and Antoninus Pius. The two former were found in a cottage garden belonging to Mr. SIMONS, and are now in the possession of Mr. J. K. FOWLER. The Adrianus is a rare specimen, the inscription of the Emperor's name being from right to left. The third is in my own possession.

On Saturday evening, May 19th, 1855, a labourer was excavating in the Rectory garden; and at the depth of four feet six inches below the surface he discovered what proved to be a Roman Amphora used for a cinerary urn, of coarse yellowish pottery, which bore the trace of old fractures, and was further broken into fragments by the discoverer. The clay in which it was found is cretaceous, very tenacious, and impervious to water. The hole which the Amphora occupied is about eighteen inches in diameter; the contiguous clay, being streaked with dark lines in a way which distinguished it from other portions around, bore marks of disturbance to the eye of a practised excavator.

Within or under the Amphora were the following:—

### A. Articles in Glass.

1. One green glass vessel, exactly resembling the drawing in Mr. WRIGHT's "Celt, Roman, and Saxon," p. 226, outside figure on the left hand. This was broken apparently long ago by the pressure of the earth. The upper part of it is capable of restoration. Adhering to a piece of it were found fragments of bone.

2. Four smaller green glass vessels, Nos. 2, 3, 4, 5, exactly resembling the drawing of Mr. WRIGHT, same page, second figure on the left; one of these is nearly entire, and in this were found ashes. The other two are very much broken; and within one of them were found some little gilded or silvered beads (one bead with a wire in it, No. 14), and part of a wooden pin, No. 19, about an inch long, among ashes.

Subsequently, part of another wooden pin, No. 18, with an ornamented head, was discovered in the excavated clay.

3. A glass vessel in numerous fragments, the glass thin, part dim milky white, part clear blue.

B. Articles in red Samian ware:—

1. 2. Two Pateræ: one nearly entire, No. 6, with the name of the potter **MVXTVLLIM**; and the other though broken, No. 7, capable of restoration to a great degree. Within the former, among ashes, were leaves, probably the remains of garlands or wreaths used at the burial, and some white substance, which emitted an aromatic scent when pressed, perhaps balsam [MR. HENRY of 18, Lincoln's Inn Fields, in a letter dated 23rd August, 1855, reports the result of a chemical examination, most obligingly undertaken at request. "The aromatic substance you left with me I find to be the gum resin 'Olibanum,' the ancient Thus or Frankincense"]; some more little gilded beads, one with a wire in it; an ornament something like the shape of a glass bugle, No. 13; a fibula or brooch in bronze, the figure being a hare, No. 15, with the place for the pin clearly visible; another bronze ornament, No. 16.

2. Another vessel more in the cup shape, capable of restoration in a great measure. The name of the potter quite distinct, **METTI.M.** No. 8.

C. A vessel of common red pottery with the neck broken off, No. 9, resembling the lower half of the middle figure of the seven in MR. WRIGHT's book, p. 226. In this was found, among ashes, a twisted wire.

D. Drab colored ware.

1. Broken and imperfect, with an indented cross-barred pattern, No. 10.

2. Another plain: pieces broken in, and covered in the interior by cinerary ashes. Piece of bone found.

3. Neck of a bottle and other pieces, No. 11.

4. A very small vessel, No. 12, in size resembling the little jugs drawn in MR. WRIGHT's book, p. 304, fig. 2, without any handle.

E. Various:—

1. Several pieces of iron with rivets and nails, which were affixed to wood, as the adhering fibres of decayed wood show. The articles were put probably into a wooden chest with iron braces bound round, and when the wood

decayed, the pressure of the earth caused the fractures, the Amphora partly protecting them.

2. Part of a small circular plate in silvery metal, with copper corrosion on it, perhaps part of a mirror, No. 17.

3. A piece of a sandal, with nails in it, No. 20.

4. A small bent nail.

5. An apparently dried fruit nearly of the size of a dried apple, the exterior mouldy, the interior white and pulpy.

6. Some pieces of human bone.

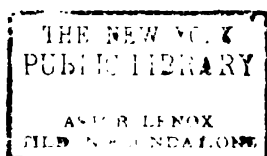
The ornaments afford evidence that the burial was that of a female.

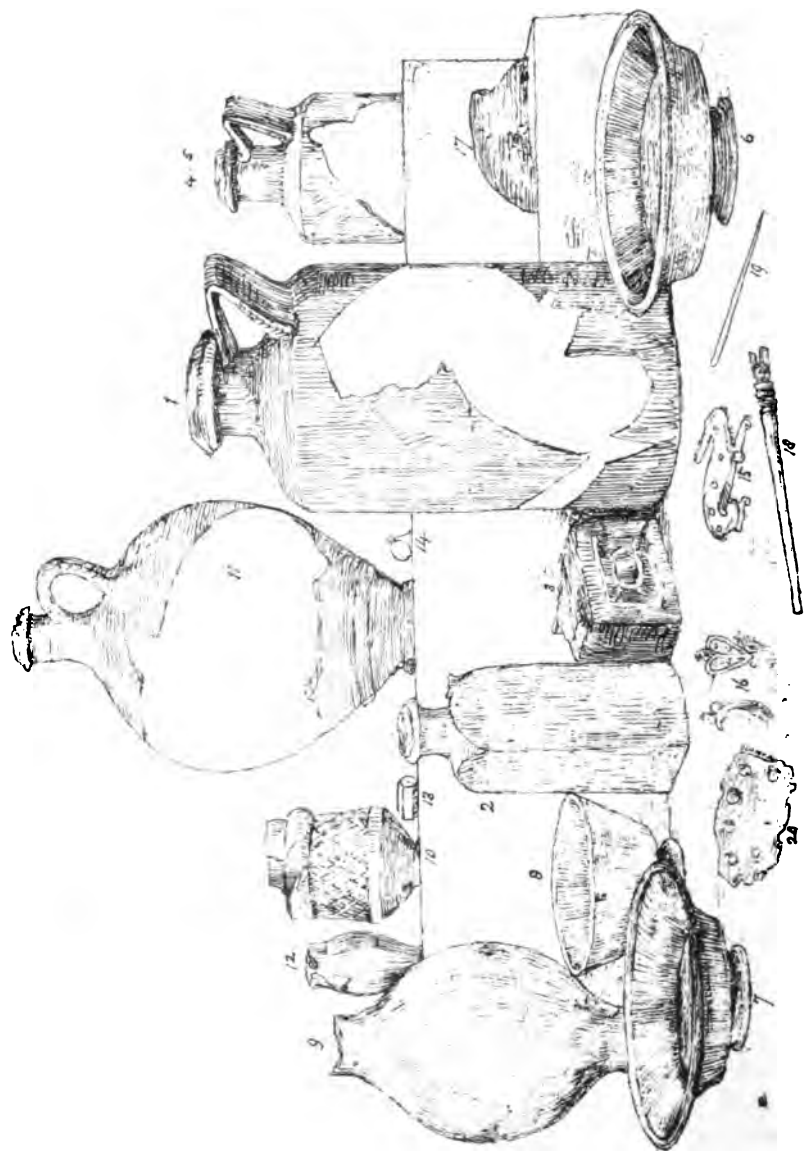
The first name of the Parish, Weston, bespeaks the settlement of the Saxons.

The second name, Turville, is that of one of the companions in arms of the Norman Conqueror, whose family continued here till the time of King John, and whose descendants still flourish at Husbands Bosworth, Leicestershire.

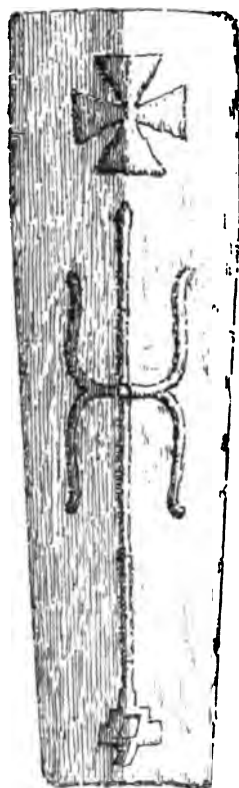
During the improvements of the Church, A.D. 1860, when the eastern and southern walls of the Chancel were entirely taken down, a small Norman pillar, numbered 4, was discovered among the materials, with the same pattern upon it as described on the ornamental shaft of the door of the North Cloisters, Durham, delineated in *Old England*, No. 596. It is placed in a recess of the newly-built Chancel wall. Its height is 12 inches; diameter, 6 inches; it is perforated, as if for the insertion of a small pipe from top to bottom; and it has a piece of moulding at the top, forming part of a capital. This and the font of the same style carry us back to the Norman period.

In the course of taking down the south wall two periods of building were made quite clear. The mark of a lower roof is visible on the plaster in the interior. And when the tiles were removed an old stone weather course above such lower roof was discovered. Besides which, the mortar of the part above the first roof was less crumbling than in the lower part. The upper part must have been raised to receive the timber of the present roof, which was probably constructed about 1400. The record in Strype, that on the 8th of June, A.D. 1556, the Chancel was found in the course of an Episcopal Visitation to be in a dilapidated condition, is too late for the style of the carving. And

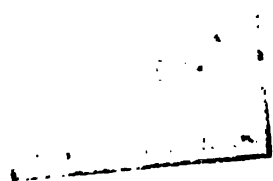




Roman remains found at Weston Turville. from Harrold House.



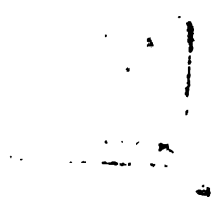
STONE COFFIN - WESTON TURVILLE

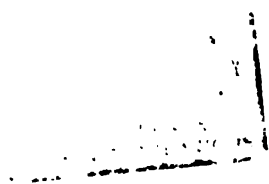




1. Shield of the Duchy of Lancaster

2.3. Stones found in Chancel wall

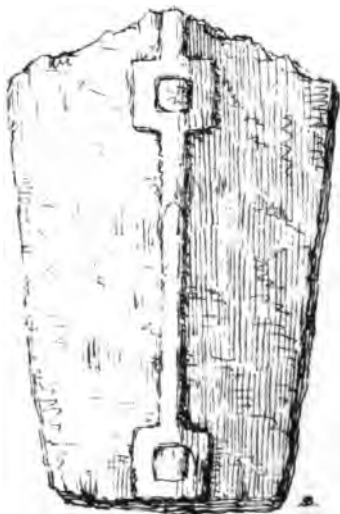




4



6

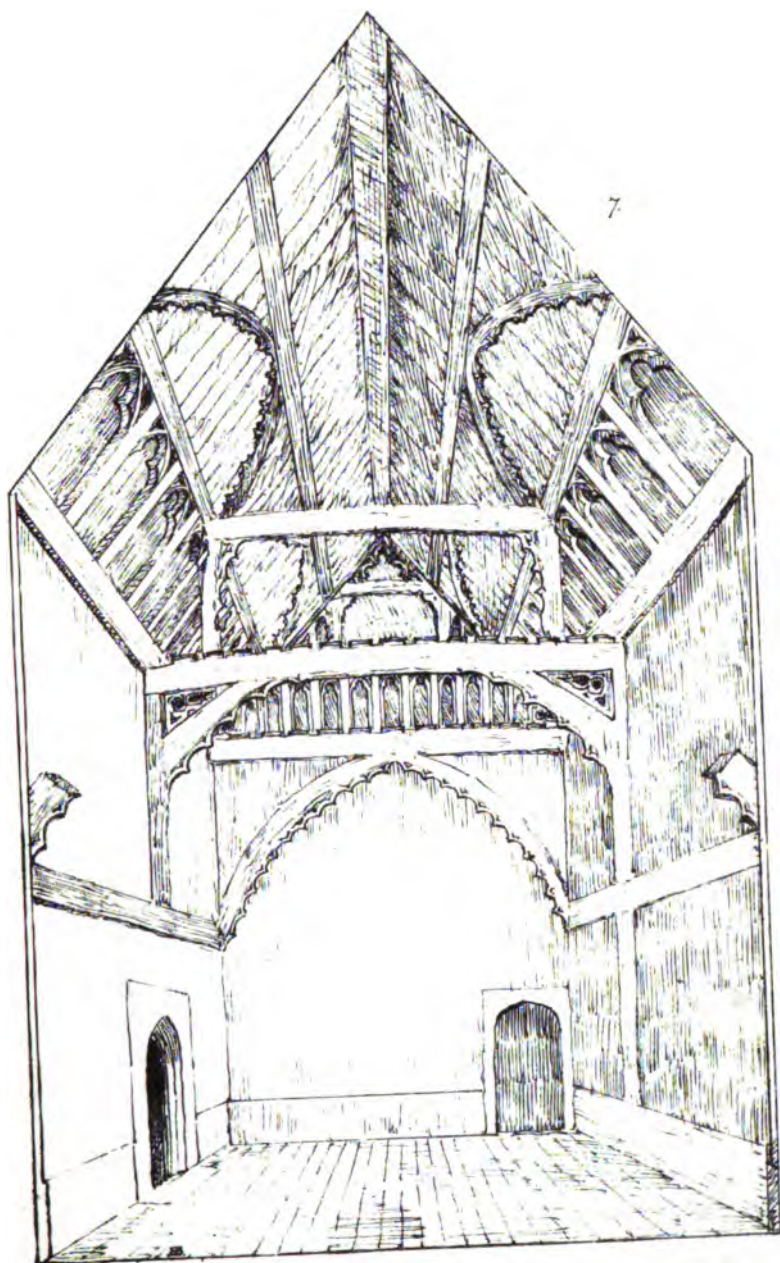


5

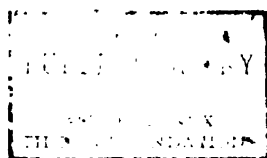


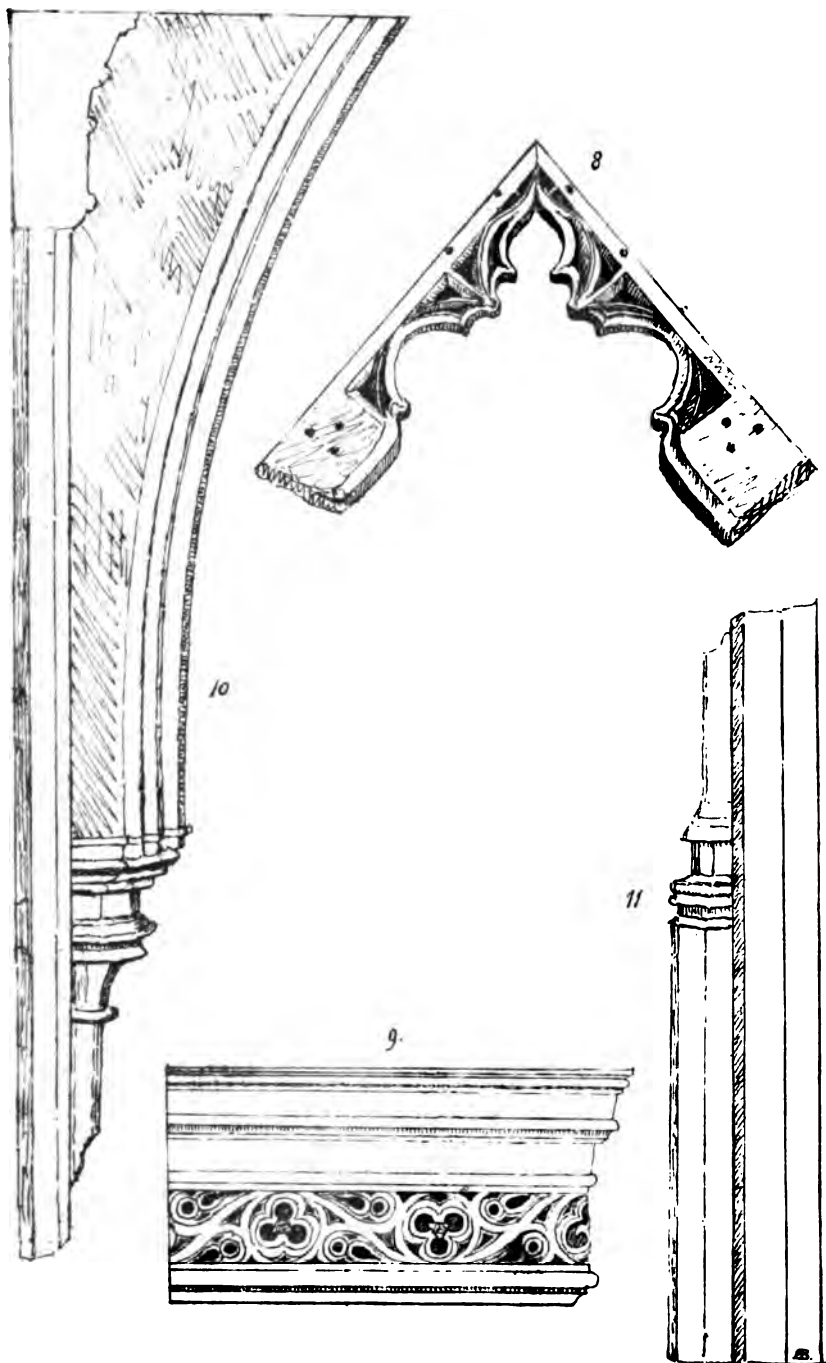
4. Pillar found in Chancel wall

5. 6. Fragments of Stone coffins

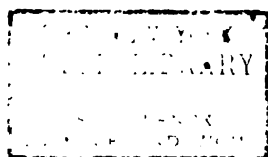


7. Interior of Old Rectory Hall.





8. Ridge piece at East Gable of Rectory Hall  
 9. Oak cornice of Hall in the Hyde Manor house.  
 10. 11. Bowtell, Corbell, and Hammer brace of ditto.



it is not probable that the order made upon the Rector for the execution of the repairs before the ensuing Michaelmas, comprehended such a large amount of work as the raising of the walls and the erection of a new roof, considering the slow and deliberate methods of that period.

The original Chancel comprised a double piscina, which has been restored, similar to one of Salisbury Cathedral, completed A.D. 1258; three windows of the Early English style, the eastern and middle blocked up, the western open, without the tracery; a priest's door situated between the Eastern and Middle windows; under the Western window, a low-side window, about two feet above the floor of the Chancel, with sill and jambs, the width of the opening about 18 inches, the head formed by the materials belonging to the window above. The details so described indicate a date for the Chancel between 1250 and 1300, during the incumbency of one of the three first Rectors named by Lipscomb, previous to the sale of the Advowson by Ela, widow of Walter de Hopton, in the year 1304. And during that period the Norman pillar of some prior edifice may have been used as material.

Other relics were found in the same lower part of the Chancel wall:—

Two curious effigies of Knights numbered 2, 3, executed in Teynton stone, Gloucestershire, the same stone as in the Perpendicular south doorway of Aylesbury Church. They are preserved in a recess. The blocks are seventeen inches high, and twelve inches wide. The figures are thirteen inches high, in low relief, projecting to a level with the surrounding margin, which was formed into an arched canopy. One of them is raising the sword; the other is sheathing it. The sheathed sword is nine inches long. The shield is cylindrical, six inches long, in shape like an heating iron of extended length. The style of them is more ancient than the two figures of William Long Espée, and William Earl of Pembroke, given in "Old England," if the length of the sword, and the shield may be taken for guidance. And since William Long Espée participated in laying the foundation of Salisbury Cathedral A.D. 1220, it may not be far wrong to place them about the middle of the twelfth century. Such a date would allow time for them to have become mutilated previous to the building of the Early

English Chancel, in which the double piscina of the Salisbury pattern has been named. And being mutilated they may have been used as materials together with the Norman pillar. In the same wall were discovered some pieces of tooth moulding, which must be supposed to have belonged to the building of Norman style, in order to account for their being introduced as materials into the Early English structure.

The effigies of the Knights, which seem to have been monumental, and the tooth moulding, which would appear to have formed part of a monumental canopy, are evidently relics of an earlier ecclesiastical edifice.

Some ancient coffins were also discovered during the progress of the repair, viz. :—

1. About three feet from the line of the second nave arch west of the Chancel, at a depth of a few inches below the floor-level, a stone coffin, with a fracture across the lid. The drawing of it is annexed. The Maltese cross at the head resembles the one marked on No. 12 of the coffins discovered in Bakewell Church, Derbyshire; and the pedestal at the foot resembles that of No. 13 in the same collection. See Vol. IV, "Archæological Journal," p. 48-52. To the Bakewell coffins is assigned the date, A.D. 1100, to A.D. 1260, and No. 12 is specified as one of the earliest of them. This correspondence of the head and foot devices, and the resemblance of the floriated cross in the middle to the pattern in MR. KELKE's notices of "Sepulchral Monuments," p. 6, suggest the date of the 12th century for the Weston Turville coffin, a date coeval with the effigies of the Knights. The inside was not thoroughly examined. But when the lid was lifted, a piece of leather was taken out as wide as the corpse, being either part of the hoqueton, leathern jacket worn under the armour, or a portion of the leather in which the body was interred. Supposing the latter to be the adopted conjecture, the following remarks in "Bloxam's Monumental Architecture" tend to confirm the date already assigned. "During the 11th and 12th centuries a mode seems to have been devised and followed of preserving the bodies of persons of rank from immediate decay by salting them, and afterwards enclosing them in leather or hides. This peculiar usage was probably discontinued about the commencement of the 13th century." A small

piece of the leather which is preserved is doubled, and stitched near the edge. The style of the coffin agrees with the notion that it was made for a person of distinction, possibly, some Lord of the Manor, or some successor of Roger in the Manor of Bedgrove.

2. Two pieces of a Coffin-lid numbered 6, a few inches below the floor level, in the western end of the south aisle. A drawing is annexed.

3. Another fragment numbered 5, found in a buttress erected at the N.E. corner of the Chancel about 35 years ago.

4. A coffin, wanting only the lid, about the same depth as No. 1, at the East End of the North aisle. Between this aisle and the Vestry an arch was filled up. When the filling was removed, the spring or impost for the sub-arch was found projecting from the walls upon which the arch rested, but the sub-arch itself was wanting. The southern jamb is out of the perpendicular owing to a defect, which, there is reason to think, appeared very early in the foundations of the adjoining Chancel arch. The northern jamb was much shattered at the bottom, probably owing to undue pressure from the same defect. It is not unlikely that the original design was altered from the first, in deference to some architectural fears about the grouping of the arches or some monitory symptoms of insecurity, and the solid wall was built as a precaution. If the filling had been done to remedy an existing dilapidation, more care would have been taken in the construction of the wall, and it would have been senseless to remove the sub-arch previous to the erection of a solid support. Besides, at the time when the arch was blocked up, the small arched opening (now termed by Archæologists a hagioscope) must have been formed, about four feet above the level of the aisle-floor, close to the steps leading to the rood-loft. This was designed to enable a person standing in the aisle to see the elevation of the host at the altar. It had a sill and a small shaft on the side towards the aisle. Supposing the filling of the arch to have been nearly coeval with the erection of the Chancel arch, we may date the coffin earlier than A.D. 1250, to 1300. For the foot of it was placed under the filling, and all the bones were found removed to the foot, as though they had been thrust to the part under the wall, when the lid was

removed. The general style of it was not so ancient as the example, page 246.

In 7 Edward III., (A.D. 1333), Sir John de Molins procured a charter for free warren in all his demesne lands at Weston Turville, also to make a Castle of his Manor-house there, no doubt, on the site where the moats of the present Manor-house are traceable, near the Church-yard. Thirteen years afterwards, another John, son of the former, (compare Dugdale's Baronage and the fines mentioned in Lipscomb), obtained leave from the King, "that he might fortify his Manor House at Weston Turville with embattled walls." The traditions of their possessions here exist to this day in the names of lands, Castle Field and Molins. It is not unlikely that the father or the son promoted the Flamboyant embellishments of the south aisle. In that side of the Church, east of the south porch, the mortar of the foundations is better than in any other part; and in the east corner there remains part of an ancient screen, which cut part of the mouldings of the pillar now restored, and was met by other wood-work, likewise damaging the mouldings, and running from west to east, to complete an inclosure, which may have been the private Chapel of that great family. The son, it appears, was such a benefactor to the Canons of St. Mary Overie in Southwark, as to win for himself and his wife Egidia a promise that they would remember them in their masses, vigils, &c., and inscribe their names in their martyrology after death.

Some excellent specimens of stained glass are another evidence that persons of distinction took an interest in the edifice: among these is the Madonna (see annexed), which was removed from the eastern clerestory window, north side, about 35 years ago, to the eastern window of the Chancel, in which situation it now remains. There is also a shield in a window of the north aisle, charged with a cheveron between three bucks heads, cabossed *sable* on a field *arg.*—arms borne indifferently by the families of Gernon and Horwood, ancient landed proprietors of the County, the latter name occurring in the Parish Register at the beginning of the 17th century. Another specimen is a shield numbered 1, inserted by accident, in a reversed position, representing the armorial bearings of the House of Lancaster, the three lions, and the label with three fleur-de-lis upon every one of the three points. This





was removed at the same time as the Madonna from the Church (situation not known) to the Chancel; and it is now placed in the western window of the south side of the Chancel. The date of the introduction of this shield into the Church may be matter for speculation, unless the character of the glass determine it. Edmund Plantagenet, called Crouchback, Earl of Lancaster, second son of Henry III., bore England with a label, sometimes of five, sometimes of three points, each point being charged with three fleur-de-lis. He was also High Steward of England and Earl of Leicester. But the latter title, which has an importance in the parochial history, he did not possess until after the death of Simon de Montfort at the battle of Evesham, A.D. 1265. To the Earl of Leicester the Manor of Weston Turville was granted by Henry I. Probably Montfort was the Earl of Leicester who is recorded in the language of Lipscomb, to "have held pleas, denominated of the ancient feoffment, and view of frankpledge throughout his lands of Weston, without interruption of the King or his Bailiffs, and recovered the same liberties as against the King," in the year 1265. After that, Simon and all his adherents, dead or alive, were excommunicated by the Pope's Legate. And Edmund Plantagenet, who received the Earldom of Leicester, succeeded to certain rights in Weston attached to the Earldom. Nor is it unlikely that he being the great personage of the parish promoted the erection of the Church, considering how much he was brought into correspondence with the Pope during his long expectation of the crown of Sicily by the Papal grant, and how he owed the Earldom of Leicester to the Papal excommunication. He died at Bayonne A.D. 1296. The date of his titular privileges coincides with the date previously assigned to the Chancel. And the shield of Lancaster may have been originally introduced to his honour. The heraldic shape of it belongs to the end of the 13th, or the beginning of the 14th century.

After Edmund, Henry Plantagenet, Earl of Lancaster and Leicester, was created Duke of Lancaster in the 25th year of Edward III.; and Lancashire was erected into a County Palatine. The only dukedom prior to this was the Duchy of Cornwall granted to the Black Prince March 17th, 1337. But when the Duchy of Lancaster was created, other demesnes, such as the Palace and district of the

Savoy in London were added to it; and the rights of the Earldom of Leicester in Weston Turville may be supposed to have fallen to the Duchy. Then they passed by the heiress of Henry Plantagenet to her husband John of Gaunt, who succeeded to the Palatinate. And from him they descended to his son Henry, who was the first to place the Crown in the House of Lancaster as Henry IV. In Henry IV. reign the Duchy Court of Lancaster was instituted, to the end the lands belonging to the Duchy might in all following times be distinguished and known from the lands of the Crown. This may have been the period of the introduction of the shield, if the times of Edmund Plantagenet should be judged too early for the glass. In Henry IV.'s reign, Gilbert Lord Talbot had one fourth part of the Manor of Weston Turville; and his wife was Joan, daughter of Thomas Earl of Buckingham, the youngest Son of Edward III., cousin of Henry IV. After Henry IV., the Court of the Duchy was abolished, until its revival in the time of Henry VII., in whose reign the roof of the Church may have been constructed.

The rights of the Sovereign over the Manor were exercised in early times despotically, when William the Conqueror granted it to the Bishop of Baieux; when William Rufus deprived the Bishop of it; when Henry I., granted it to the Earl of Leicester; when Edward III., angry with Sir John de Molins, because he did not send moneys to him at the siege of Tournay A.D. 1340, seized his lands, but afterwards restored them.

In our own century the last impress of regal sway has been removed from the Manor. The rights originally granted by the Crown to the Earldom of Leicester seem to have found a way back to the Crown from that Earldom through the Duchy of Lancaster; and compensation for the remnant of them was accepted on the part of George III., in the form of a small allotment measuring rather more than half an acre, under the Enclosure Act of 1799. This allotment was transferred in 1857, to Mr. John Eldridge, by the Duchy of Lancaster.

The tower of the Church is in the Perpendicular style. It was to have been built beyond the area of the nave and aisles to the west, if the original intention may be conjectured from the finish of the capitals of the two last columns. The roof of the nave may have been constructed at the

same date as the tower, in the latter part of the 15th century. A screen in the Perpendicular style, of the same date, standing in the Nave side of the Chancel arch was removed A.D. 1860. This had been painted red and green, then white over those colours, and brown lastly. About 35 years ago, a massive beam, resting on the screen, and no doubt supporting the rood-loft, together with other wood-work running up to the point of the Chancel arch, was taken away. Four of the six compartments of this screen are placed under the arch between the Chancel and the Vestry, the other two were in a dilapidated condition, the gate of the central arch was gone.

A lich-gate forms the entrance to the Church-yard across the pathway leading to the north Porch.

Mention has been made of the raising of the Chancel Walls, and the construction of the Roof, which has been recently disinterred from a vault of plaster. The timbers corresponded nearly in span and curve of brace with the timbers of the old hall of the Rectory-house, pulled down in 1837, numbered 7. This interior was divided into a wainscoted wall on the ground floor, about eight or nine feet high, two bed rooms above of the same height, and two ceiled attics above those. It stood to the points of the compass very nearly as the Church stands; and the east end was ornamented as shewn. The west end was plain with a ridge piece in the gable of plainer pattern than the one to the east, numbered 8. The carving in the roof, part of which was much decayed, was hidden by lath and plaister; and the character of the whole did not appear until the work of demolition was far advanced. The timber was very ancient, and black with smoke. The dimensions of the area were 22:9 by 18:7, the height to the wall plate, about 20 feet. The sketch annexed is from memory, assisted by memoranda and parts of the oak carving still preserved. When it was submitted to two archæologists separately, they agreed in assigning the hall to the reign of Edward III., but with some diffidence on account of the difficulty of forming an opinion upon a drawing, which does not profess to be complete in its architectural details. The agreement of two competent judges, who were uninformed about the history of the Parish, is an interesting coincidence; and it affords a foundation for the conjecture that the De Molin's family

may have erected the hall for the Priest, about the date of the Flamboyant Windows in the Church. The door in the S.E. corner communicated with two rooms, projecting to the south, the upper one of which had a small window about 18 in. by 12 in., entirely hidden by brick and mortar. The old Hall of the Hyde Manor House, (see No. 9. 10. 11.) has a floor thrown across it to form two bed rooms, which are ceiled. Its dimensions are 26 : 9 by 21 : 2. The height from the floor to the top of the cornice is 16 : 5. The carving of the roof is hidden by the ceiling ; and it is impossible to ascertain its style and condition without breaking through.

Among the old Saxon words handed down ; there is a "Twitchel," that is, "a narrow passage or alley," or perhaps, "a catch-way" or short-cut. And there is a "Pightle," or "small enclosed piece of ground."

The Parish Register of baptisms commences A.D. 1538, of marriages and burials A.D. 1566. An elaborate genealogical arrangement of all the Parish Registers of England during the 16th and 17th centuries, under the auspices of the Genealogical Society, and the various Archæological Societies of the Kingdom, might be a valuable contribution to general history, topography, and social science ; or, if so great an Archæological undertaking be impracticable, the more modest achievement of an alphabetical catalogue of parish names is suggested.

An old oak panel in the Church, bearing the inscription

FAITH N  
OT EXER  
CISED SO  
ONE WA  
XETH SI  
CKE  
ANO D  
OMINI  
1578

has been removed from the position near the north door to the back of the hexagonal (Elizabethan?) pulpit, an unfinished side, which was originally placed in the corner near the archway leading to the rood-loft, lately opened. In the absence of any clue to local tradition or record which might explain why the motto was carved in the year 1578, the Rev. J. H. SNELL observes, the solution will

probably be found in the complexion of the times generally at that period: the excommunication of Queen Elizabeth, A.D. 1570, the massacre of St. Bartholomew, A.D. 1572, a severe dearth in the country, A.D. 1574; or, it may have been intended to stir the people to the exercise of faith while engaged in congregational prayer, after the suppression of the religious meetings, called "Exercises," in 1577.

One of the Quarries in the eastern Flamboyant window of the south aisle bears the following inscription, which has escaped demolition for more than 200 years:—

Altiss :<sup>mo</sup>. Gloriosiss :<sup>mo</sup>.

Opt :<sup>mo</sup>. Max :<sup>mo</sup>. Laus &  
honos & prostratio.

T : W : f.

1655.

A coin of Edward II., found by a labourer in the parish, is in my possession.

This brief and imperfect sketch of the past, embracing the Roman, Saxon, and Norman occupation of the county, the Early English, Decorated, and Perpendicular periods of Architecture, the eras of the Reformation and the Commonwealth, helps to shew how every time may be represented in a single Parish. As we tread the scenes where men of distant ages have preceded us, speculating with animation, and meditating with seriousness, may we look forward as Christians to a world untracked, and prepared to burst upon our view, when the forms which amuse and gladden us in a fleeting hour are to pass away into indescribable eternity.

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AYLESBURY PARISH CHURCH.—A large gilt salver or paten, was presented to the Archdeacon for the use of this Church by the Priests and Deacons who were ordained here on the 23rd of September last. The presentation in behalf of the contributors was made on Christmas Day by the Rev. JOHN DAUBENY, M. A. The paten, which was designed and manufactured by Mr. KEITH, of the City-road, London, and supplied by Mr. FIELD, silversmith, of this town, bears the following inscription:—"Ad majorem Dei gloriam. Hanc patinam in usum Ecclesiæ S. Mariæ in Aylesbury, dedicaverunt Presbyteri et Diaconi a R. Patre in Christo Samuele, Episc. Oxon. Die Dominica, ix, cal. Oct. MDCCCLX., ibidem ordinati."

## THE SEPULCHRAL BRASSES OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

Buckinghamshire is rather rich in Sepulchral Brasses, but they are widely scattered through the various Churches of the County, and no complete list of them has ever yet been provided, although such a list has long been a much felt desideratum.

Such a list, it is now hoped, will ere long be supplied through the kindness of the Rev. J. A. BOODLE, who has undertaken to copy all Brasses in the County, and to send a transcript of their inscriptions for publication in the "Records." He purposes to follow the order of Deaneries, beginning with that of Buckingham, of which the subjoined is the first instalment.

### DEANERY OF BUCKINGHAM.—(First portion).

Fifteen Churches—eleven Brasses in six Churches.

BUCKINGHAM. Inscr :

H. S. E.  
mortale depositum  
Rev<sup>d</sup> THOMÆ EGINTON A. B.  
e Coll: Linc: Oxon:  
Qui  
felicitis ingenii  
eruditionis veræ  
miræque morum suavitatis  
brevis erat dominus.  
Obiit  
XXVII<sup>o</sup> die Feb<sup>rii</sup>  
anno { æræ Christianæ MDCCL  
      { ætatis suæ XXIII<sup>o</sup>.

CAVERSFIELD.

1. Civilian, loose, head & inscr: lost [—Langston ?] C.1435.
2. John Langston [1506] in armour and wife Amice—  
male fig. covered by a pue, female fig: inscr: and 3  
shields loose—Inscr: as follows:  
O pater excelsa miserere pcor miserere Johis langston  
et coniugis amisie.  
Atq' sue sobilis qui te in terra coluere hosse velis  
oro jungere celicolis.
3. Two hands holding heart with 3 scrolls for [Thos ?]  
Denton [1533 ?] inscr: lost.
4. Inscr: loose. Here lyeth the body of Rauff Heydon  
the sonne of Willam Heydon Esquier  
the said Rauff decessid the third day  
of Julye Anno Domini 1592.

SHALSTONE. dame Susan Kyngeston 1540.

Inscr: as follows:

Here lyethe buried dame Susan Kyngeston voves the El  
dyst dowght of Rychard fletyplace of Est shyfford in the  
Cumtye of Berk<sup>e</sup> Esquier decessyd & late the wyfe of John  
Kyngeston of Chelsey in the said Countye of Berk<sup>e</sup> Esquier  
also decessyd the whyche said dame Susan dyed the xxii<sup>th</sup>  
day of Septemb in the yere of our lord God a m<sup>o</sup> ccccc<sup>o</sup>  
xl on whose sowle and all crysten soull ihu haue mcý.

TINGEWICK. Erasmus Williams, rector, 1608—curious.

Inscr: as follows:

This dooth Erasmus Williams represent  
Whome liuing all did loue, deade all lament.  
His humane Artes behind his backe attende  
Whereon spare howers he wisely chose to spende.  
And from Corinthiane Columne deckt with Artes  
Now to the Temple's Pillar him conuertes.  
Vnder the Rainebowes arch of Promise, where

Of hoped blisse noe deluge he neede feare.  
 He of this Churche did a firme Pillar liue,  
 T'whome deade his Wiues loue dooth these Pillars giue,  
 Contriued by his Schollar and his frende,  
 Whoe wisht their loues and liues had made one ende.  
 Erasmus More's encomion sett forth ;  
 We want a More to praise Erasmus' worth.

Of the line of S<sup>r</sup> Io. Williams of Dorsetshire, & by the  
 Mother of the howse of S<sup>r</sup> William a Barowe in Hamp.  
 He died A<sup>o</sup> 1608 March 30 Ætat. sue 56.

TURWESTON. 1. A priest C. 1450. inscr: lost.

2. Thos Grene and wives Joan & Agnes very small C. 1490  
 inscr: as follows:

Orate p̄ aiabus Thome Grene Johanne et Augnet vxor  
 eius quorum aiabus ppicietur deus Amen.

TWYFORD. 1. John Euerdon—Rector— $\frac{1}{2}$  fig. 1413.

Inscr: as follows:

Hic iacet dñs Jōhes Euerdon quondā Rector isti'  
 Eccleie qui obiit 1111<sup>to</sup> die Septembris Anno dñi  
 Mīllo cccc<sup>o</sup> xiii<sup>o</sup> Cuius aīe ppicietur deus Amē.

2. Thomas Giffard Esquyer, in armour, 1550. Inscr:  
 as follows:

Here lyethe buried the Bodyes of Thomas Giffard  
 of Twiffard in the Cōu  
 tye of Buck Esquyer and Marie his wyffe  
 Doughter of Wyllm Staveley  
 of Bignell Esquyer which Thomas decessyd the  
 xxv<sup>th</sup> day of Nouember  
 in the yere of o' lorde God mcccccl On whose  
 Soules Ihu haue mercy amen.

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## A BRIEF HISTORICAL SKETCH OF AYLESBURY.

BY ARCHDEACON BICKERSTETH.

THE TOWN OF AYLESBURY is built upon an elevated portion of Portland rock, one of the members of the Upper Oolitic formation. It stands at its highest point about 300 feet above the level of the sea; and is surrounded by extensive clay beds, known to geologists as the Kimmeridge clay, and forming a considerable plain, called the Vale of Aylesbury. The rock on which Aylesbury stands, and that at Stone, were probably at some very remote period one continuous elevation. But primæval floods have washed away the immediate portions, and have laid bare the underlying stratum, the Kimmeridge clay above referred to, which forms the subsoil of a great part of the fertile districts around the town.

These accidents of the geological condition of the neighbourhood, doubtless contributed to give an early importance to Aylesbury, and have still a very direct bearing upon its prosperity. Its elevation above the surrounding plain made it an important stronghold in very early times; while the dark blue loamy clay of the Vale around, furnishes the staple of the rich soil which has made the district so famous in agriculture; contributing in no small degree to the material prosperity of the town.

The old British name of Aylesbury is lost to us. It is said to have been taken, together with other British strongholds, by Cuthwolf, the Saxon, in A.D. 571. It appears to have been known to the Saxons as *Æglesburge*. Tradition tells us that it derived great fame from two maiden sisters Edburg and Edith, daughters of Frewald, a Mercian Prince, said to have been "Lord of this Country." These sisters had a niece named St. Osyth, whose story is sometimes confused with theirs. St. Osyth (or Osith) is said

to have been born at Quarendon. She was the daughter of Frewald, a Mercian Prince, and was brought up with her aunt Editha, the possessor of the town and manor of Aylesbury. Having been early betrothed to an East Anglian Prince, she obtained permission from him to lead a life of perpetual virginity. She founded a Monastery at Chick in Essex, and having there lived an exemplary life, she is said to have been massacred by the Danes about A.D. 870. Her body was afterwards brought to Aylesbury, where great miracles are said to have been performed over her tomb. According to some accounts she was buried at Quarendon. It may be well to mention in passing, that Bierton, Quarendon, Stoke Mandeville, and Buckland, were all of them originally dependencies of Aylesbury. They were separated from Aylesbury, and made a district parish, with Bierton for the mother Church, in the 13th century.\*

Leaving these early and traditional notices of Aylesbury, we find that at the time of the Norman survey the Manor of Aylesbury belonged to the Crown, the Bishop of Lincoln holding the Church with a manor belonging to it.

In the reign of Henry II., A.D. 1154, certain lands are described as belonging to 'William de St. Mary Church,' from which we may also infer that there was a Church at Aylesbury anterior to the present Early English structure. This view is confirmed by the fact that during the recent extensive restoration of the present building, some unquestionably Norman fragments were found buried in the foundations.

There is a curious record preserved to us, of the date of A.D. 1323, in which year it was returned that Robert Fitz-Richard, son of William of Aylesbury, who died in 1278, held a small estate here on condition of finding for the service of the King, as often as he should come to the town, "litter of straw for the King's bed, straw† or grass for the King's chamber; two geese in summer, or three eels in winter." So that though we do not read of Aylesbury

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\* See "Records of Buckinghamshire," vol. 1, p. 233, &c.

† A relic of this custom has been preserved to recent times, in the presentation of a truss of straw, on the occasion of the meeting of the High Sheriff with the Judges at the Assizes.

ducks at that early period, we know that for upwards of 500 years eels have inhabited the waters, and geese have been fed upon the banks of the brooks, which flow round the town.

The Manor continued a part of the Royal demesnes until the time of King John, when it was granted to Geoffery Fitz-Piers. From his family it passed to the Botelers, or Butlers, Earls of Ormond, who sold it in the 16th century to Sir John Baldwin, Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, a great favourite of Henry VIII., from whom he received grants of Abbey lands, and amongst others of the 'Grey Friars,' Aylesbury.—This Sir John Baldwin was a great benefactor to the town, adorning it with public edifices, and making "a passing faire causey" to it for three miles or thereabouts in length." Upon the death of Sir John Baldwin, Oct. 22, 1545, the Manor passed, by the marriage of his daughter, to Robert Pakington, Mercer of Cheapside, younger son of John Pakington, Esq., of Worcestershire. This family retained the Manor for about 250 years, enjoying the favour of successive Sovereigns, and receiving many honours from them. They suffered however, in common with so many other distinguished houses, during the civil wars, when the representative of the family was taken prisoner by the Parliamentary forces, and committed to the Tower, and fined £5000. His estates were sequestered to pay this fine, and though he recovered them after the troubles, the Manor House had been so ruined, that it ceased from that time to be the family residence. Amongst other interesting records connected with this family, there is an entry in the Register of Burials for the parish in the following words:—"Oct. 26, 1623—Sir John Pakington, Knight and Baronet, "the hopes of Aylesbury." This Sir John Pakington was Member for the Borough of Aylesbury, but died in his twenty-fourth year.\*

Owing to the influence of several families, especially that of Hampden, the town of Aylesbury in those disastrous times took an active part on the Parliamentary side. The

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\* The Manor of Aylesbury passed in 1802 from Sir John Pakington, the eighth Baronet, to the Marquess of Buckingham. The present Lord of the Manor is Acton Tindal, Esq.

first decisive act was a petition on the part of the officers and soldiers assembled at Aylesbury under the direction of the Parliament, for the removal of Lord Paget from the Lord Lieutenancy of the County; and by the request of the same persons Lord Wharton was appointed in the place of Lord Paget, June 17, 1642. But Aylesbury was destined in this year to experience more keenly the horrors of civil war. The battle of Edge-hill was fought Oct. 23rd of that year; and on the 1st November, 1642 (nine days afterwards) a skirmish took place in the immediate vicinity of the town, which has been dignified with the name of the Battle of Aylesbury, and of which a detailed and somewhat bombastic account is preserved in a scarce tract published at the close of the same year, and entitled "Good and joyfull newes out of Buckinghamshire."\*

It appears that after the conflict at Edge-hill the Royalist troops made their way towards their old quarters near Banbury, and having succeeded in taking Banbury, they marched onwards towards Oxford. It was, no doubt, in the course of this progress that the skirmish at Aylesbury took place.

The account to which I have referred states that Prince Rupert entered the town at six o'clock in the morning of Nov. 1st, with a force of 10,000 horse and foot. Colonel Bulstrode was then the Governor of the garrison at Aylesbury. The account goes on to say that the Militia at Aylesbury made a virtue of necessity, and entertained the new comers civilly. Meanwhile the news arrived that Sir William Balfour (Lieutenant-General of the forces under Lord Essex) was approaching the town with a force of 6,000 foot and horse, the foot under the command of Colonel Hampden. It proved, however, the account says, that they were not really more than 1,500;

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\* The title of this tract is as follows: "Good and Joyfull Newes out of Buckinghamshire, Being an exact and true Relation of a Battell, Stricken betwixt Prince Robert and Sir William Balfore, Lieutenant Generall to His Excellency, the Earle of Essex neer Alisbury in that County on Tuesday last, the first of November, wherein the said Sir William obtained a happy and glorious Victory."

"London: Printed for Francis Wright, 1642."

[A copy of this tract is in the possession of Mr. Thomas Field, silversmith, of this town.]

and it is quite as probable that Prince Rupert's force was overstated.

However, the Prince thereupon went out (leaving a troop of horse and two companies of foot in the town) and met the Parliamentary troops at Holman's Bridge, where a sharp conflict took place, in which 200\* Royalists and 90 Parliamentarians fell. In *Whitelock's Memorials* it is stated that "Prince Rupert ranged abroad with great parties who committed strange insolencies and violence upon the country. At Ailsbury he failed of his design, by the care and stoutness of Colonel Bulstrode, Governor there."

There is a curious little volume, entitled "*Mercurius Rusticus*," published in 1646, which gives a graphic description of the disturbed state of the country, and of the insecurity of life and property at this time. The following extract relates to Buckinghamshire:—

"Master Anthony Tyringham, Parson of Tyringham in Buckinghamshire, having businesse at Maids Morton at his returne came to Buckingham, where he met with two of his nephews. The Uncle and his Nephews glad of so happy a meeting, after some stay to congratulate the good chance, and to refresh themselves, set forward in their journey, and passed in peace without danger untill they came neere to Stony Stratford, where a partee of Dragoones coming from Ailesbury surprized them; and instantly, (scarce asking them from whence they came) searched and disarmed them, which was no difficult atchievement, there being but one sword amongst all three. The Rebels take from them their Horses, their Coats and Money; superfluous things as they conceived for men designed to captivity; for having spoyled them of their Horses, Money and Garments, they send them with a strong guard prisoners to Ailesbury; while the rest of the Partee, lurking about Stony Stratford, stayed there to expect some fresh booty. And that in this we doe not slander these great Champions of the Subjects Liberties and Properties, the issue will acquit us; for presently after (to shew that all was Fish which came to Net) they seized upon a poore Bone lace man and a Shoemaker, robbed them of what they had, and in the same manner sent them away Prisoners to Ailesbury. The guard of Dragoones having brought their three Prisoners about a mile and a half on the way towards Ailesbury, commanded them againe to alight. The first Plunder was for the Captain or Commanders; or else a share was set apart *Anathema* for the support of the Publique Cause, these men to whose trust they were committed, now intend to plunder for themselves. And first they command Master Tyringham to pull off his Cassocke, who being not sudden in obeying the command, nor over hasty to untye his Girdle to disroabe himselfe of the distinctiv garment of his Profession; (though now a Cassocke, contracted into the Compendium of a *Gippon*, is become the Garb of the Reformers) one of the Dragoones, to quicken him,

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\* In the document above referred to, the loss on the Royalist side is said to have been altogether 800 men.

cut him through the hat into the head with the sword taken from one of his Nephews, and with another blow cut him over the fingers; Master *Tyringham* wondering at so barbarous usage without any provocation, came towards him that had thus wounded him, and desired him to hold his hands, pleading that he was a *Clergiman*, a *Prisoner*, and *disarmed*; the cowardly Villaine either fearing the approach of a disarmed man, or willing to lay hold on any advantage to expose the Prisoners to the fury of his fellows, cried out 'Shoot the rogues, for they intend to resist;' the word was no sooner given but a Musquet was instantly discharged at one of *M Tyringham's* Nephews; but the Musqueteers missing his mark, another of the Rebels with his sword aymed righte, and ranne him into the shoulder; a Musquet was presented to the other Nephew, but God's Providence restrained the murtherous intention of the Rebelle that he did not give fire. Thus exercising their pleasure upon disarmed wounded men, they rob Master *Tyringham* of his Cascocke, rifle all their pockets, and take from them what they please, and to palliate their cruelty, they send two Dragoons back, to tell their Captains and their Companies that the Prisoners committed to their custody and conduct made resistance; Upon this false alarm given, presently the Captains and their Companies make up to them, to assist a strong Guard against three disarmed, and of them two wounded men; being come where they were, they encompasse them about, and without any examination of the businesse, presuming the suggestion to be undoubted truth, one of the Rebells, Captain *Pollard* by name, with a full blow strikes at Master *Tyringham*, and with his sword cuts his Arme and Cubit-bones crosse the elbow almost asunder; Master *Tyringham* (almost three-score yeeres of age within two) bore this barbarous usage with undaunted courage, and hearing this bloody Villaine called Capitaine *Pollard*, in a pleasant indignation, expressed the sense of the injurie thus, *That now he had made him a Pollard indeed*; a metaphor easily understood by Woodmen, who usually call a Tree whose limbs or branches are lopped off a *Pollard*. Master *Tyringhams* Arme thus miserably wounded and hanging dangling from his shoulder, without any government from the nerves or sinewes, one of his Nephews having a mourning Riband, tendered it to his Uncle to bind up his arme, but the Rebells will not permit it; though Master *Tyringham* intreat the favour to have his wounds bound up, and the very spectacle before their eyes, was argument enough to extort this mercy from them, yet they remaine inexorable, nor would they be persuaded untill a long time after: having now made sure work with their Prisoners, and rendered them so farre unable to resist, that some were hardly able to sit the jades on which they were mounted, they againe set forward for *Aylesbury*. The Dragoons horses on which they were set, being tyred, made the way very tedious, especially to Master *Tyringham*, who lost much blood all the way as they went.

"While these Gentlemen were in this miserable condition, Capitaine *Pollard*, not troubled at all for so bloody a fact, barbarously committed by himselfe on an Aged Gentleman, and a Minister of that Gospel which they falsly pretend to maintaine, but indeed deny and blaspheme in all their acting, turned aside to *Whaddon Chase*, and sported himselfe in killing some of His Majestie's Deere, which he carried along with him to *Aylesbury*; after almost foure houres riding, tyred out with tyred jades, and fainting with losse of blood, the Prisoners were againe commanded to alight at a Towne called *Whitchurch*, within two miles of *Aylesbury*. Here they fall on Master *Tyringham* afresh, and plunder him as eagerly as if he had been new come into their hands, and

not touched by them before. They pluck off his boots, and take from him his Jerkin, his Hat and Cap, all the fences provided for cold and weather, and the usuall fortifications against the injuries of wind and raine; and so made a Patterne of the man wounded between *Jerusalem* and *Jerico*, they mount him as his Spittle againe and drive on, and after an houres riding in cold and darknesse, at last they arrived at *Aylesbury*, that night the Chyrurgical (as soon as they could be found) viewed and dressed the wound, but concluded unanimously that they must cut off his Arme the next day, or else it would Gangrene and infallibly kill him, which next day was done accordingly. Master *Tyringham* bore the losse of his Arme with incredible resolution and courage, as knowing the justice of that cause for which he suffered, and as willing to lay down his Life in testimony of his Loyalty, as his Brother Master *Edward Tyringham*, one of the Gentlemen of the king's Privy Chamber had done before him, who the last Winter being employed in His Majestie's Service, and set on by a Partee of Rebells fought valiantly but oppressed with multitudes, received so many wounds that he dyed of them. But it hath pleased God so to blesse the means used for this Gentleman's recovery, that there are great hopes he will survive these maimes, and (as himself undauntedly told the Rebells to their faces) *Live to see them hanged, Amen.*"\*

Reverting to the battle of Aylesbury, a singular confirmation of the account given in the tract to which I have referred, was obtained by the late Lord Nugent in the year 1818. In the autumn of that year, some labourers who were digging for gravel near Holman's Bridge, discovered a quantity of human bones buried in pits from two to four or five feet deep. Some of the pits were found in the gravel and some in the clay. Those which were buried in the clay were much less decomposed than the others, and it was inferred from the teeth and other evidence that they were the remains of adults. The total number of bodies found was 247, corresponding very nearly with the number (290) said to have been slain in this conflict, allowance being of course made for some bodies that may have been removed immediately after the battle by friends or relatives, and some that may have been buried singly. It has been noticed that no weapons of any kind were discovered near these skeletons; but this is explained by the fact of the conflict having taken place so near the town; so that any arms would easily have been carried off for the uses of the garrison. We may therefore safely infer that these were the remains of the soldiers who fell in the battle of Aylesbury. It should be added

\* "*Mercurius Rusticus*; or the Countries Complaint, recounting the sad events of this unparalleled war. Printed in the yeere 1646,"—A copy of this is in the Hartwell Library.

that under the direction of Lord Nugent the bones were carefully collected and buried in the Churchyard of the adjoining parish of Hardwick. By the liberality of the same nobleman a monument with a suitable inscription was erected over this their new and more appropriate resting place.

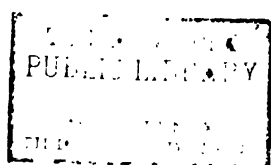
In the concluding sentiment of that inscription we shall all concur—" May the memory of brave men be respected; and may our country never again be compelled to take part in a conflict such as that which this tablet records."

I ought to mention, in connection with the political history of the town, that Aylesbury was constituted a Borough under a Charter of Queen Mary in 1554, the Corporation consisting of one Bailiff, ten Aldermen, and twelve capital Burgesses. This body formed the Common Council of the town, and had the right conveyed to them of electing two discreet and honest men of the said Borough to be Burgesses in Parliament. By virtue of this Charter the Corporation was created, and they proceeded soon afterwards to return two Members; but by degrees they appear to have failed to fill up the number of Burgesses. They however still retained their Bailiff as the returning Officer.

A sketch of the political history of Aylesbury would scarcely be complete without some allusion to the notorious John Wilkes. This clever but unprincipled satirist (the son of Israel Wilkes, a distiller) was born in London, Oct. 28, 1727. His connection with Aylesbury commenced in early life, when he was brought up under Mr. Leeson, a dissenting minister of this town; and it was established by his marriage with Mary (daughter of John Mead, a grocer of London) who brought him his life interest as lessee of the Prebendal property. He thus became possessed of the Prebendal House\*, where he resided for some time. The marriage was not a happy one; and in a few years they separated. In the very year of their separation (1757) he was elected Member for

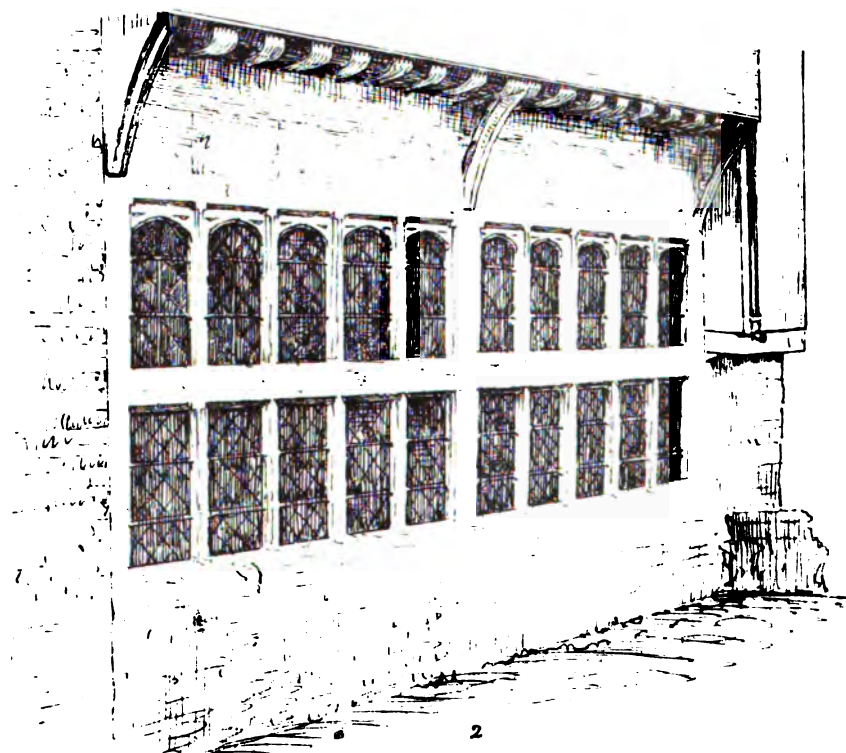
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\* The Prebendal House was sold from the Prebendal Estate about the year 1801, to redeem the land-tax. It is now the private property of the Venerable Archdeacon Bickersteth.





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1. Ancient Town Hall at Aylesbury, as it appeared in 1738  
 2 Window in King's Head Hotel, Aylesbury.

Aylesbury, at a cost, it is said, of nearly £7,000. It was about this time that he started as a political writer, and set up the "North Briton." It is supposed that he was assisted by Lord Temple and Mr. Pitt (afterwards Lord Chatham), the object of the publication being to oppose the "Briton," which was conducted by Smollett, in defence of Lord Bute. The celebrated article (No. 45) was a violent attack upon the King's speech, for which a warrant was issued against him; and Wilkes, notwithstanding a Habeas Corpus, which was instantly sued for, was sent to the Tower. But upon his being brought before the Court of Common Pleas, the Lord Chief Justice Pratt (afterwards Lord Camden) declared against the legality of his imprisonment; and ultimately he recovered £4,000 damages. After this he set up a press in his own house, and reprinted the "North Briton," for which he was prosecuted to conviction. This led to pecuniary embarrassments, in consequence of which he went abroad, and travelled over a considerable part of the continent of Europe. During this absence he was outlawed. But in the spring of 1768 he surrendered to the King's Bench, and on June 18th, in that year, was sentenced to twenty-two months' imprisonment, and to pay a fine of £1,000.

Notwithstanding these reverses he continued to gain in public estimation. He was frequently returned for Middlesex. He filled the office of Lord Mayor of London in 1774; and was elected Chamberlain of that City in 1779.

He died at the house of his daughter in Kensington, Dec. 26, 1797, in the 73rd year of his age.

Wilkes had a great reputation for wit, and was possessed of considerable classical taste. Dr. Johnson, who had no sympathy with his character, did full justice to his powers of conversation, and confessed himself overcome, though much against his will, by the wit and humour of Wilkes' conversation. As an instance of his classical taste, it may be mentioned that on the wall which separates the Churchyard of Aylesbury from the Prebendal grounds, there is a mural tablet which records the death of a favorite gardener, with the poetical allusion, as follows:—

To the Memory  
of

JOHN SMART, Gardener,  
Who died the 16th day of Nov., 1764,  
Aged 64 years.

*Illum etiam lauri, (illum?) etiam fievare myricæ.—Virg.*

The earliest notices which we have of the town of Aylesbury are to be found in *Leland's Itinerary*. Leland lived in the time of Henry VIII.; and was a favourite of that Monarch, who made him one of his Chaplains, and his Librarian. He also received from his royal patron the office of Royal Antiquary. He died in 1552. Leland travelled about the country to collect such documents as he could save from the wreck of the Monasteries, which documents he afterwards gathered into the King's Library. The antiquary entered Aylesbury from the south-west, passing over Holman's Bridge, which he describes as a little bridge of stone, over a brook which he gathers is "Tame water." From hence there was a "stone causey" to the town. He goes on to say "there runneth a pretty brook almost at the very end of the town by South under a wooden bridge. It runneth down from east to west into Tame by the lefte ripe of it; about a mile bynethe Aillesbyri." The town at that time was "meetly well builded with tymbre" and had a celebrated market "with a domus civica in the middle of the market place, a late re-edified by Baldwin;\* but the King gave the tymber of it." He adds, the "gaole for Buckinghamshire is in this towne."

It appears from a record of the date of Edward III. that the County Gaol was situated in Aylesbury at that early period.

Tradition points to *Kingsbury* as the site of the old Mansion or Manor House of the Chief Lord of the town. But this would probably have been at a period antecedent to the time of Henry VIII. It will be remembered that the Manor of Aylesbury was in the crown until the time of King John; and it is not improbable that the name of Kingsbury still marks this ancient Royal possession.

*Temple Street* and *Temple Square* derive their names no doubt from the family of Temple, who held lands in this parish in the 16th century; while *Bourbon Street* owes its title to the residence of Louis the 13th, at the neighbouring mansion at Hartwell.

There are but few antiquarian remains now existing in

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\* A print from a photographic sketch of this Market Hall, or Domus Civica, is given in this number, and also of the window of the room in the King's Head.

Aylesbury. There is an interesting room in the *King's Head* which deserves a visit. Its date is apparently of the time of Henry VIII. There is also a portion of the *White Hart*, built at the period of the Restoration, which together with some other remains of the same date, shew that whatever part the Aylesbury people took in the civil wars, they were all heartily glad when the rightful Monarch was restored.

The Building at the *White Hart* is worthy of special notice. It rises nearly thirty feet high, and has a steep gabled roof, with a fine stack of chimnies on the north-east side. The brick mouldings round the windows are very good; and the building generally is a good specimen of the domestic architecture of the 17th century. On the ground floor the original room is divided, and forms in part a drawing-room and in part a coach-house. The room on the first floor (generally known as the *Great Room*) is very interesting. It still retains its original dimensions (about 39 feet long, 23 feet broad, and 12 feet high). At the eastern end of the room there appears to have been a dais, such as is constantly seen in College and other Halls, with narrow side windows. These side windows have however been blocked up, and the windows at the east and west ends of the room have been modernized. The room is panelled throughout with frames of irregular sizes for the reception of pictures. The ceiling is also divided into compartments with gilt bosses at the intersection of the beams. In the centre compartment there is a painting on canvas, of two figures representing "Peace and Concord," while two cherubims are conjointly holding a crown, and the initials C. R. over the principal figures. Two others are below them, holding a scroll with the words:—

"Let Peace and Concord sit and singe  
And subjects yield obedience to their King."

The sides of the room are covered with figures painted on panels, and with pictures representing classical subjects. Amongst these may be mentioned a large picture of Æneas carrying Anchises from the ruins of Troy. This is said to be a copy from the picture, by Raphael, in the Vatican. There is also over the fire-place a picture

of Thomyris the Scythian Queen receiving the head of Cyrus, and supposed to be uttering the memorable words—

“*Satia te sanguine quem semper sitiisti.*”

The origin of this building is said to have been as follows:—

Lord Clarendon in his history of the Rebellion, mentions that the Earl of Rochester paid a visit to Aylesbury in 1655, soon after the rising at Salisbury; and that he lodged at an Inn, kept by a person named Gilvy. Here he was watched, and had a narrow escape of being taken. But the innkeeper was induced by present bribe, and by the hope of future reward, to assist his escape to London; from whence, after the eagerness of the pursuit was over, he contrived to make good his return to the Continent. Thus far Lord Clarendon. The rest of the story, which is nothing more than a probable supposition, is this, that Gilvy was the landlord of the White Hart Inn; and that upon the Restoration in 1660, he was sent for to Court, and that as a memorial of the gratitude of the Royalists, the Earl of Rochester adorned his Inn with this building, and fitted up the “Great Room” as it is now to be seen in its restored condition.

#### ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY,

This brief sketch of Aylesbury would be very imperfect if I were to conclude it without some reference to its Ecclesiastical history.\*

Four Ecclesiastical Foundations are recorded to have been successively established here.

I. The Hospitals of St. John and St. Leonard.

II. A House of Franciscans or Grey Friars.

III. A Fraternity or Brotherhood of the Town of Aylesbury, more commonly known as a Chantry.

IV. A House of Trinitarians.—I may, however, state at once, that the evidence with regard to this latter Foundation is very doubtful and obscure.

I The earliest intimation which we have of the *Hospitals* is in an Inquisition made in the 34th and 35th of

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\* I have not included in this brief sketch any notice of the Parish Church, because that subject has been treated of more fully elsewhere. The present very interesting structure is of the date of about A.D. 1250,

Edward III., *i.e.* A.D. 1361 and 1362, from which it appears that they were founded for needy and leprous persons, by certain charitable donors in the reign of Henry I., *i.e.* early in the 12th century. At the time when the inquisition was made, these Foundations had fallen into decay, and were "seized into the hands of lay persons." The property of St. John's Hospital consisted of a messuage, 21 acres of arable (*terræ*) and four acres of meadow (*prati*). That of St. Leonard consisted of 13 acres of arable and two of meadow, partly in Aylesbury and partly in Hartwell. The Lady Eleanor, Countess D'Ormond, who held the Manor for some years in dower, was the Patroness at the time of the Inquisition.

She died in 1363.

II. The House of the *Franciscans* or *Grey Friars* was founded at the south end of the town by James Butler (or Boteler) Earl of Ormonde in 1387. He was the grandson of the above named Lady Eleanor.

It is probable that this House was founded on the site of the old Hospitals of St. John and St. Leonard, still known as the 'Friarage.' An effigy was dug up near this site many years ago, and is now preserved under a canopy in the north transept of Aylesbury Church, which has with reason been supposed to be the effigy of this James, Earl of Ormond, Founder of the Grey Friars. At all events the date of the armour, being the transition period between the chain and plated armour, coincides. This figure is erroneously stated by Browne Willis, to be that of Sir Robert Lee in the time of Henry VII.\* It is unquestionably of a much earlier date, and may fairly be assigned to the Boteler family.

The value of the Grey Friars at the time of the Dissolution was £3 2s. 5d. It was surrendered Oct. 1, 1539. The House then became (by grant from the Crown) the seat of Chief Justice Baldwin, and afterwards of the Pakingtons, until it was dismantled in the civil wars. Some remains of the old foundation were discovered by Mr. T. Dell in 1840.

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\* *Notitia Parliamentaria*. A neat reprint of this work, so far as it relates to the County of Buckingham, was published by Mr. Robert Gibbs of Aylesbury, in 1854.

The following account is given of these Friars at the time of the Dissolution, by Dr. London:—

“At Ailesbury I find them very poor and in debt—their ornaments very coarse, and very little stuff of household there. I only sold the glass windows and their ornaments with their materials. I left the House whole, and only defaced the Church there. The whole Church is well covered with lead, and a good roof.”

III. A *Fraternity* or *Chantry*.—This Fraternity was founded in the time of Henry VI., 1425, by J. Singleton, Esq., J. Baldwin the elder, and J. Baldwin the younger. It was dissolved upon the abolition of Chantries, when the Estates came to the crown. Its value at the time of the Dissolution was £23 14s. 9d.

In 1553 William Bell and Robert Ellys, Clerks, were receiving stipends of £6 13s. 4d. each.

The site of this Chantry is accurately pointed out in a subsequent grant made by Edward VI., in 1549, where mention is made of the conveyance of “a messuage or tenement called the Brother House in Aylesbury, next the Churchyard, parcel of the possessions of the late guild or Fraternity of Aylesbury, &c.”

In 1553 the King grants to certain persons various lands and meadows—a messuage called the Plough, &c., all late belonging to “the Fraternity of the Blessed Mary.”

It is not improbable that the old stall seats in the Chancel of Aylesbury Church were originally appropriated to the Brothers of this Chantry.

I have thus completed the very brief sketch which I purposed to make of the History of Aylesbury. I can only hope that the details may be filled up at a future time by some one with more leisure, and with the opportunity of greater research than I can command. I have spoken to you of Aylesbury in the past. Turning for one moment to Aylesbury in the present, I think that I may pronounce it to be an improving town; and I will hope that some antiquary, yet to come, may be able to speak of the 19th century as not unimportant in the annals of this town. Instead of Civil Wars, he will have, we trust, to record only a peaceful progress in material and moral advancement. He will be able to note a new and more

commodious Infirmary, not unconnected with the name of "Florence Nightingale." He will point, let us hope, to increased railway communication—to a liberal supply of pure water from the chalk springs of the Chiltern hills; to baths and wash-houses for the poor; and to dwelling-houses of a superior character, such as may induce more persons of independent means to make Aylesbury their residence; so that a town not uninteresting in the past, may still justify the praise bestowed upon it by Camden 260 years ago, where he describes it in these words—"Upon the rising of a pretty hill standeth a faire market town, well occupied, and compassed about with many most pleasant green meadows and pastures, commonly called AYLESBURY."\*

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#### CHIPPING WYCOMB.

The following curious notice is from the *Rotuli Hundredorum*.—"Villata de Wycomb—Dicunt quod Rogerus Maloysel Ballivus Wallingfordie cepit de Ada de Oxonia de Wycomb unum par sotulariorum precii vj denariorum pro eo quod suo tempore non poneret eum in assisas. Item dicunt quod idem Rogerus, in ultimo itinere Justiciariorum apud Wycomb maliciose extorsit de Agnete Bordwad vj marcas dum fuit in prisa in hospicio Symonis de Hibernia et recognovit etiam multis hominibus quod tradidit medietatem dicto Simoni."

MEANING OF THE WORD CHIPPING.—This word, says Kennett, is from the Saxon, *Ceap*, which means goods, or vendible wares; whence *Ceapan*, is to buy or to cheapen. Hence a *Chapman*; a cheap price; and the names of several places of market or trade, as *Cheapside* in London, *Chepstow* in Wales, *Cheping-Norton* in Oxfordshire, *Chipping Wycomb* in Bucks, &c. Hence also to *Chaffer*, to *Chop*; and, in the North, to *Swop*, meaning to bargain, to change or exchange. And "*Chop-Churches*," a term applied to those secular priests who drove a trade or made an advantage by exchanging of their benefices, a mercenary practice very common in the fourteenth century.

[W. H. K.]

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\* *Magna Britannia*.

LETTER TO LORD HARLEY RELATING TO COINS  
FOUND AT WHADDON.

(From the Harleian Collection. No. 6824, folio 49.)

" April ye 3, 1723.

" My Lord,

" I not being present when the copper-coins were discovered it fell into several hands that was at the time there; the which has obliged me to be the longer before I could make the return of them as ordered by your Honour, I have sent all that I could recover; there are but few or none left in the hands of any one, but I bought 14 which Mistress Bradford and her maid picked up. I asked her for them and acquainted her that I was to send them to your Honour as by order; she said they were in no way disposed of, so that I hope she will send them as from her own hand; I desire your honour will be pleased to let me know whether any thing should be given to the 5 labourers from whom I recovered them.

" I am your honour's humble and  
" obedient ser<sup>t</sup>

" JOHN GLOVER.

" To Lord Harley at

" Dover House, London."

[Contributed by the Rev. H. ROUNDELL.]

LICENCE TO EAT MEAT.

There is at Claydon in the possession of SIR HARRY VERNEY, Bart., an Archiepiscopal licence, dated 9th February, 1580-1, and confirmed by letters patent under the great seal by which SIR EDMUND VERNEY was allowed to eat flesh on days forbidden, with a good conscience, for the term of his life, on the ground that eating of fish was injurious to his health by reason of the great weakness of his stomach. His wife, and any three persons whom he chose to select were allowed to be co-partakers in this indulgence.—*From the Verney Papers, printed by the Camden Society, page 85.* It appears to have been necessary to Sir Edmund's "weak stomach," that his friends should eat meat as well as himself.

## COLOUR: HOW FAR ADMISSIBLE IN ARCHITECTURE.

BY REV. G. R. FERRIS.

INTRODUCTION.—Before entering immediately on the subject of the present paper, it may be necessary for me to say a few words by way of its introduction at such a Meeting as our present. Our Society is engaged principally, at any rate, with the cold, dead, past: to search for, and enquire into, and reverently to preserve, or, where that may not be, to store up memorials of all that time has left us, in this County, of the works of our fathers is, one of its chief aims. And the papers read this evening, have been of this kind. My subject belongs to the present, the warm, living, present; not to the past, but to the day of an existing life. It owes its birth and its features, and the outline of its form to the past; it traces its rise back into the ages that are gone. But this is all; at least, it comes before us now as a living present question. The spirit which animates it is one, happily, which is of to-day, and which, we may hope, will continue to live in ages yet to come;—the desire to make the house, and the worship of God, more worthy of Him to whom they are offered.

This, then, must be its apology for its appearance among the papers of this evening. That, though a creature of the present, it can trace its descent from those venerable remains which we are all so anxious to preserve.

POSITION OF QUESTION.—“Colour: how far admissible in Architecture?” A few years ago such a question would have been met by a decided negative. And there it would have rested. There would have been little, or no desire shewn to enquire, whether such an uncivil rejection might not, in a measure, be modified, and some little kindliness manifested towards a question, which came and asked, so humbly, for admission. And even now, in many minds,

it is received with a scarcely less articulately pronounced "No;" or with a hesitating, doubtful, "Yes," only less negative, because affirmative in form.

And, on this account, I have preferred to bring it before the Society in the form of a question. Not because I think this to be all that the subject can claim; to be treated as an open question, a subject to be discussed, examined, turned over, objected to, before it can take its place as a conclusion with which we are satisfied. Nor because this is the form in which it presents itself to my own mind. But because this is the attitude in which, possibly, most minds still regard it, as a doubtful question. Or, at any rate as able to assume no more positive a position, than that represented by the title of this paper. "Colour: how far admissible in Architecture?" "Admissible," received with the doubtful, negative-looking, affirmative; but only admissible with certain limitations, under certain restrictions, in certain places, applied to certain parts of a building; *e. g.*, windows. And, therefore, to be most jealously watched, and kept in its place.

This is the attitude in which, in most instances, the subject is even now regarded. But it is not that which it assumes in my own mind; nor is it the one, in which I hope to see it, finally, placed. I hope, and I confidently expect, that, in a few years, it will take its place as one of the recognized means for adorning our Churches and houses.

I must now then, if you will allow me, make two or three preliminary remarks before I go any further.

PRELIMINARY REMARKS.—I. The first is, that I am about to plead for the *general* use of colour; *i. e.*, not in particular parts of a building, as windows, pavements, hangings, &c. But in *every part*; walls, windows, roofs, piers, pavements. I would see them all in this respect, and with proper harmony contributing each their part in one glorious whole.

II.—Next, I would say that I claim no special authority for anything which I may be led to say in this paper. I desire its conclusions to go forth with no more special weight, than will belong to the conclusions of any thoughtful mind loving the subject, and desiring to see it better understood, and received amongst us. I speak with no peculiar or technical knowledge; I only claim to

bring forward what might have been arrived at by any other mind;—by any one in, or out of this room, who may choose to think about it. But what I do claim is, that the subject may not be met by the articulate “No,” with which it was the fashion, a few years ago, to meet it. That it may, at least, prefer its claim to be thought about by those who are interested in Architecture.

III.—And therefore I would say at the outset, that, for anything which I may say, I claim no higher place, no other attitude, than of a subject to be discussed, pulled in pieces, turned in-side out, if you will; so it only may not be received with a dead silence in the minds of the members present. Let the subject be thoroughly examined—it will well bear the light—not for the value of what is to be here said of it by me, but for its own sake. The only thing which it needs to dread is, the silent darkness of those holes, and corners of our minds, into which we stuff away things which we have once heard, but which we do not want, and do not care to remember.

IV.—Another thing, I would say, is; that it is quite possible I may have to go over ground—to use arguments: with which some of the members may be familiar. I shall certainly arrive at conclusions, which have already been arrived at by others, who have written on the same subject: I may have to employ the same kind of arguments. Be it so. I have not hesitated to use such as I have met with, which were suitable to my purpose. For anything else; “In the mouth of two or three witnesses shall every word be established.” And if two different minds, starting from two different points, arrive at the same truth, and in reaching it have to go over the same kind of ground; this is but one proof more that truth belongs not to any one particular party. She is the inalienable inheritance of no one mind, or set of minds. She may be possessed by all who lovingly, and reverently, seek for her.

V. And, lastly, I would say that the whole subject of the application of Colour in Architecture is, at present, in so imperfect a state; our knowledge of the conditions under which it is to be applied—of the general principles which are to be our guides—of the laws which must regulate its use—is of so slight a kind that there is, at present, no room for dogmatism on either side. This only should be our present conclusion: That it *is* admissible—nay! even

*necessitated*, if we would, fully, carry out our principles. Let us only arrive satisfactorily thus far; and the path beyond, to a knowledge of the way in which it is to be applied, will be both easier to find, and safer to travel.

ARGUMENT FROM ANTIQUITY.—“Colour: how far admissible in Architecture?” I see the strongly defined negative coming forward, every instant, more clearly into view from the background of many minds. Let it stay there awhile longer, before it comes quite into the light. Our fathers did not think in this way of it; they to whose works we are still compelled to look up with unbounded admiration—I might almost say, with awe. And, at least, they knew something of the matter.

OBJECTION.—But it will be said, “Oh, those were the dark ages, and we live in the light.” This is not quite so certain a conclusion as it sometimes seems to be. Our fathers did not live quite so much in the dark, as we sometimes, complacently, imagine. “Darkness,” is altogether a relative term. And the gloom of a November day is broad day-light to the man, who has been shut up for a month in a dungeon. And the men of the dark ages had a very clear insight into things of which we, of the light, more often than not, make an awful bungle. Even in such simple matters as the sanitary arrangements of our dwellings we can well afford to take a lesson from them. There is many an old passage, and tunnel, which tradition avers to have travelled to fabulous distances, and which has puzzled whole generations of antiquarians to decide upon its use, will find its most natural explanation by assuming the humble, but necessary office of a common sewer. How far we are superior to them in this respect, those, who have had the happiness to live in some modern planned houses, are well qualified to give a very sufficient testimony.

But, at any rate, in our present matter, the witness of former days is most clear and decided. Not a fragment of wall—hardly a pier which time has left, but will shew, if it be carefully examined, that it has been adorned with colour.

The negative, then, may be met at once by a confident appeal to the practice of antiquity. And no reverent mind will reject, without examination, anything which has received such a sanction. It may be necessary to qualify

our reception of that which comes to us so sanctioned. We may have to modify, and adapt it to our present wants. In some few instances, to reject it as unsuited to the present day. Certainly not to reject it without due attention.

VALUE OF ARGUMENT.—The appeal, then, in this matter, to antiquity will have this value; that they, to whom we owe the principles of our native Architecture, and many of its details—and therefore, who at least, knew something about it—did not think their work to be complete without the addition of colour.

ARGUMENT FROM NATURE.—But we may appeal still higher. We may appeal to their common teacher, as well as ours, in matters of art; to that from which clearly they learnt, and from which we also must learn, if we would arrive at any satisfactory result. We may appeal to Nature—to the work of their God, and ours. To His work who has profusely scattered—poured colour over us; and over all things about us; and who has given to us alone, of all His creatures on earth, the power of enjoying it. Without going into the philosophical reasons for colour, it will be enough to ask the objectors to colour—"Can you find an *uncoloured* object in nature. Can you find a thing which has not its own colour, that you may begin to build a colourless building? If you can find a colourless object in nature; there will be one stone laid down on which an objection to the use of a coloured Architecture may rest. But when you have found it, expose it to the air; let us see it; bring it up where men may look at it; leave it there awhile; and then come and look at it, and it will witness against you. The first shower that came down, the first strong ray of light which fell on it coloured it—has left its trace. Nature has begun her work: she has laid on her first colours. A few years more, and the moss will be growing over it, and the lichen covering it, and it will take its place amongst coloured things."

And this is the more to our purpose, because this is just the way in which nature marks her dislike of the way in which we are trying to work. We object to colour in Architecture; and being unable to work without some colour, we reduce it, as far as possible to the condition of an uncoloured thing by spreading over our wall one uniform hue of dead white, or greyish white, or a yellowish

white. And yet watch what is the effect of the first ray of the afternoon sun stealing in over the heads of your congregation. There is there a very visible mark left of nature's pencil. "What a lovely light," you are compelled to exclaim. Nature is there, and doing for you that which you should yourself have done, and telling you of her own glory.

GENERAL OBJECTIONS.—But let us examine the objections to the general use of colour more closely. There are general objections to its use; and there are particular objections. The general objection is, perhaps, difficult to get into any definite shape, so as to be able to meet it. Perhaps, it may be more a feeling against it, as something unusual, something which we are not wont to see. More of this kind, than a judgment against it; "Use colour in particular parts—in your windows—in your pavement;—perhaps, we may allow it in your wood-work; we are not sure: use it in your altar-hangings, your pulpit cloths,—sparingly. But on your walls—on your piers—on your arches—on your stone-work, that is; never." Such is one form of the general objection. The other is, that very sweeping negative, "Not at all."

I.—Let me take the last objection first, as the most unreasonable. Can you get your work, in the first instance, uncoloured? To do this you must, first, get uncoloured materials, with which to build, and that is very hard, at any rate, to do. He will be a clever man who can find such. They will be sure to have some colour of their own. That being so, you determine to come as near to your ideal as you can, and in order to do this, you fancy white will be the nearest approach to it. And you cover all your walls with this hue. Not a very cheerful one, nor a very warm one; but still a colour. And as such it still has its advocates and admirers.

Well, but can you keep your walls to this hue? What was the effect on them of the last Sunday's sun, when you looked at them? Not an uniform hue of white at any rate. Or, to leave this, the lapse of a few years will answer this question for you in the negative. And if so, is it wise to leave that to be done, which *will* be done by certain laws of nature's own, but which will be, as far as you are concerned in its result, from a want of careful observance of those laws on your side, a hap-hazard result. Here a

stain—and there a stain; weather stains you call them. In reality, nature's protest against the way in which you are trying to work. By a little more careful observance on your part, and a selection, and arrangement of your materials nature would have coloured for you a very harmonious, and satisfactory whole.

II.—Or to come to the other objection. That colour is to be used in particular parts of a building only. May not this objection be found, in reality, to rest upon this? That there are two ways of colouring stone-work; a right way, and a wrong way, and you are thinking of the wrong way, *e.g.* no one objects to the use of coloured marbles. Piers and shafts of such a material would be universally admired, and coveted. That is one way of colouring piers and shafts. If your walls be faced with slabs of the same, the effect will be still more satisfactory. That is one way, also, of colouring walls.

There is, then, a right way of colouring—by your own confession—even stone-work; by using such materials as nature has coloured for you.

THREE WAYS OF COLOURING.—But this is an expensive way. We are not all of us able to build with marbles. We must look round us, then, and see if we cannot do something like this in less expensive ways. Briefly, then, there are three ways in which we may do it. All that has hitherto been said in this paper has gone, it will be seen, on the supposition that the employment of colour in Architecture is a necessity. That it is not a matter of choice, or opinion, or of taste and feeling. It is not one of those questions that admit of a divided answer: "Oh! that is a matter of taste." All my reasoning has gone on the idea that our buildings must have some colour; the natural colour of the material with which we build—brick—stone—marble; or a colour which we affix ourselves; or one which nature will put on for us—not approving of uniform hues of any sort; weather-stains—the influence of time and locality—light and shade thrown on them, according as they be seen from different points of view, or at different hours of the day, or in different states of the atmosphere. Or again a hue, to a certain extent, thrown over them by the work of our own hands: some parts of them being in relief—thrown forward; others drawn back; some at one angle of view; some at another. So that we scarcely ever see the same building twice, with precisely the same colour

about it. And the only question left for us, properly, to decide upon is, what particular colour, or colours we will use.

But some colour we must have. And we may do this in three different ways.

1st.—By the use of *naturally* coloured materials; variously coloured stones, marbles, &c.

2ndly.—By the use of *artificially* coloured substances; brick-work, cements, glass, &c.

3rdly.—Artificial pigments laid on the surface.

FIRST AND SECOND NOT OBJECTED TO.—Against the two first methods the objection is not considered to lie. Most inconsistently so; because if the objection be to the use of colour, it must be to its employment under any method, natural or artificial. If not, it becomes a mere debate as to the best mode; and the point in dispute is given up. But it is against the use of the third method, that the objection is conceived to lie strongest; *i.e.* against the use of artificial pigments laid on the surface.

MUST BE USED TRUTHFULLY.—Now, let me say, that much here depends upon the way in which these pigments are used. There is a way in which they may be used to make our work appear more costly than it is. To paint wood-work to represent stone; common ordinary stone to imitate the more expensive marbles; ordinary wood grained, so as to be like a more costly kind; are instances of this. Nothing can be worse: nothing deserves a severer condemnation, than this at our hands. Let our materials bear honestly on their face what they be. Let deal be still deal; stone be still stone; wood be still wood. Let them not seem better than they are.

AND ARTISTICALLY.—Again, we may have pigments inartistically laid on; gaudy, glaring, colours; violent contrasts; an absence of all taste and feeling. No one wishes to advocate such a system. It is not for such results that we plead.

These, then, are bad ways which, the sooner we get to understand our true position with regard to this subject, the sooner we shall get rid of.

OBJECTION.—But it will be said; “If you come to paint stone are you not, in reality, making it seem other than it is *e.g.* if you gild it?” I don’t believe this is, in reality, the true objection which men ever feel, but an argument

handy for their purpose. But it must be answered. I think not then. No one, by any possibility, can fancy, if we gild a bit of stone;—say in one of our Churches; lay gold colour on a capital, or a bit of foliage; that we have used gold in our walls. There is no deception practised, because no one would, certainly, now look for any such costly material in any such situation.

WHAT IS THE LEGITIMATE USE OF COLOUR?—But here opens on us the whole question. What is the legitimate use of colour in Architecture. There is much yet to be learnt on the subject. We are as yet too imperfectly acquainted with it; our eyes—and they are great teachers in the matter—are too little trained in it; our minds too much accustomed to the use of one uniform hue; too little wont to see much colour used; to be able to speak, authoritatively, on such a point. We are, as yet, but feeling our way; trying how this, or that will do; feeling after, as men in the dark feel after, its true use. And yet I fully hope and believe, that it is the twilight which precedes the full dawn, not the dusk of departing light on the matter, in which we are groping.

WHO ARE QUALIFIED TO PRONOUNCE.—Thus much, however, we may confidently say; that the true method will not be found in the direction of any sham painting. Further, that it *will* be found by the careful and laborious study of ancient examples. These have at least pointed out the direction in which we must travel. And the men to make the discovery must be men qualified to decide on such points; minds imbued with the requisite skill and knowledge, with the due degree of taste and feeling; above all with a true and simple love of God's works; with a love for all that is truly lovely and lovable in His world around us, joined with the feeling that in such matters, when brought into comparison with His works, we are but as learners from Him, not teachers in our science.

It is only such men who are qualified to decide such a matter; *e. g.*, it is only such men who can decide what degree of colour it is right and proper to give to stone foliage. We all of us join in the feeling that the most appropriate ornaments for God's house, are such as are taken from His own works; feeling that nothing which men can invent of themselves is worthy of Him. Feeling that we are doing right when we carve, to the best of our

abilities, as ornaments for His temple the representations of His own perfect works—leaves and flowers. Yet none, but such men as I have spoken of, are qualified to say how—and how far—such foliage admits of being coloured. All I contend for is, that it must be coloured in some way, and we may colour it rightly, and we may colour it wrongly; and it is worth while to try and find the right way.

**SPECIAL OBJECTIONS.**—But there are also special objections. I will name but one, as coming within the province of this paper. And that one is founded on the unsatisfactory attempts which have come down to us. And in saying this I refer not only to modern attempts in this direction, but also to ancient examples. There are men who, seeing the quaint figures, which are sometimes revealed to us on the walls of our Churches, when these walls come to be freed from their coat of whitewash, are not desirous that such results should be laid before the eyes of our people. Justly thinking that their effect must be to shock religious minds, and in the end to lower their tone. It is a grave question, and one which is every day, more and more, meeting us, as we come, more and more, to see how the walls of our old Churches are covered. Let us see if we cannot arrive at some more satisfactory conclusion, than that which will leave us only bare walls. I will here throw out a suggestion.

**SUGGESTION.**—These early attempts, are urgently wanted as example from which to study—whatsoever they be. Let all such when found, be carefully examined. If they should, eventually, be found to be such as, for any reason, we are compelled to obliterate, let them, first, be carefully copied. They are much wanted as materials for study. Then—if need be—let them be obliterated. And let these copies be carefully preserved. But where they can be left on our walls, let them be left. They mark at least our father's piety; and let us respect that, even if it be quaintly shewn.

**WORK FOR THE SOCIETY.**—Here, I think, is a legitimate field in which a Society like ours may do good service. Let all its Members try, and see what can be done towards this end; and they will do good service towards our arriving at a satisfactory result.

**PAINTINGS NOT UNDERSTOOD.**—But the sober truth of

the matter is, that this point is often, very much misunderstood. From seeing the quaint—one may almost say grotesque—character of some of the old wall paintings, people have come to conceive a prejudice against *all* wall-painting; as though it were inseparable from this character. But the truth is that these quaint paintings were owing chiefly to our father's want of skill—mechanical skill; want of accuracy of hand in drawing from natural objects. They found themselves forced into a position which they scarcely knew how to fill, and they had no time to think. They could only try, and meet the necessity in the best way they could.

**FAULTS INSEPARABLE FROM THEIR TIME.**—The fact was that the large wall space—the huge flat surfaces which *e. g.* Norman Architecture presented, required to be treated in some way. They observed too closely, and they reasoned too justly, to be ignorant of the general principle, that all nature—God's fair work on earth—was coloured. And they loved that manifestation of Him too well to deprive themselves of its help. They felt that they must colour in some way: they could not leave their walls bare; if they did, nature would colour them for them. And therefore they would do the best which they could. And so they covered their walls, as best they knew how, with representations which were akin to the purposes for which they built; embodying in these representations their own simple faith; delighting in them, doubtless, as children delight in their first efforts to draw. After a while a truer feeling came in; and a greater skill came by practice; and then their taste became more trained. And the effect of this change is seen in the more perfect works of the succeeding ages. And, then, after that, there was a decline again.

But still enough was done to shew that, like in all man's works, there must be a beginning. That there is a time when he needs to be taught; or, if there be none to teach him, he must teach himself. That nothing good can be attained at once; only by trial, by hard work, by steady perseverance, through many mistakes, by faithful earnest labour.

**CONCLUSION TO BE ARRIVED AT BY US.**—In this, I conceive, we shall find a truer conclusion, than in that which would have us cease all attempts because others, before

our time, have failed. What former ages failed in doing, may yet be done by us. And it is quite in our power, while following out the principles which former ages have searched out for us, to avoid the mistakes which they made.

VALUE OF STUDY OF ANTIQUITY.—It is in this, I conceive, that the value of the study of antiquity chiefly lies. Take, only, our greater mechanical skill in drawing; our knowledge of anatomy; our acquaintance with the laws of perspective; of the harmony and contrast of colours; of reflected light; what may not be done with these. What glorious results might be wrought out of these? turned by us to their legitimate use by being consecrated to His glory who gave us this knowledge.

Only let us not sit down quietly, with the conclusion, that it is unlawful—unworthy of Him to use them to His honour; that while our secular buildings, our private dwellings, the instruments of our pride, the monuments of our wealth, the signs, of our consequence, are all glowing with colour; God's house only—the Palace of the King of kings—shall alone stand cold and grey with its bare, plastered walls. That is not the right way to use any gift of God;—to use it for our own pleasure;—perhaps, in a way adverse to His glory. But to do our very best, out of that which He has given us, to make His worship acceptable to men.

CONCLUSION.—I am sensible, that I have treated the subject very imperfectly; that I have done no more than glance over its surface. But I have, already, taken up too much of your time; though the subject is by no means exhausted. There is much to be said of the details of such work; to instance only the degree of conventionality to be adopted. Besides the wider and previous question, Are we to be conventional? The degree and scale of colour; the object to be more particularly aimed at by the artist, whether to impress the mind with solemn thoughts, or with those of a lighter and more cheerful hue.

Still I feel that this paper would be still more incomplete, than it is, did I not try to suggest some practical rules for our guidance in the study of the subject. And here it must be confessed that much yet remains to be done by us in it. Our knowledge of the best mode of applying colour—I do not mean in the mechanical part; is at present

too imperfect to allow us to be confident. Nor are Church restorers, at present, as a general rule, sufficiently qualified to pronounce authoritatively. Still, let us work on; only let us be sure that our work, except we colour it, will be imperfect, and the right way will soon be found.

**RULES FOR OUR GUIDANCE.**—There is a point in which our knowledge exceeds that of our fathers; *e. g.*, in mechanical skill. There are others on which we, like them, must be learners. And we must learn, also, from the same teacher—Nature.

**I.**—And one of the first things on this head which she tells us is; that her colours are mostly quiet. Not dark, and heavy, and gloomy, except in her exceptional moods; but quiet and peaceful. She has her bright and dazzling colour; but she is dainty of them, jealous over them, and gives them out sparingly. She is most lavish of such also in her exceptional moods; when disturbed, or agitated, as *e. g.* in a stormy sunset. Then, like the dying dolphin, she seems stimulated in some mysterious manner. Mostly, there is a quiet cheerfulness about all her colours. This then will give us our first rule; that our prevailing tints must be quiet. Our brightest colour must be used sparingly, in small masses; as the exception, not as the rule.

**II.**—Again, colour is not merely a (1) vehicle of pleasure; but (2) a medium for rendering objects distinct. This will give us a second rule: to place our darker dints so as to heighten relief; our brighter hues on the more prominent parts; *e. g.* the upper surface of foliage; where the light falls strongest.

**III.**—As a third rule: colour is the effect of light—its child. And the brighter the light, the more vivid the tint. The brightest tints of all, then, should be set in the windows, in the glass, through which the light comes to us. Naturally there most, where the light falls strongest.

**FORMS.**—And, then, in what form is colour to be applied? In large masses of a single hue? or in small masses of many tints? As a rule, the colours of nature are seldom, if ever, in any considerable masses of any one uniform tint. The green of the fields and woods, or the blue of the unclouded sky, are, perhaps, instances of the largest masses of any one colour. And, yet, if we take into consideration the play of light and shade, the passage of clouds, the rippling of the surface occasioned by the

movements of the leaves and stalks in the wind, the slope of the earth—more, or less steep; the differences in the distances at which different parts of a field lie from us, and the variations in the tints caused by this; in the case of the sky, the difference of the part at which we are looking; low down near the horizon, or high up towards the zenith; there will be seen to be little uniformity in the tints. It is more the result of many tints blended and harmonized together. This will lead us, in like manner, to aim at applying colour to our walls, not in large masses of any one, but in an union and harmony of many, but adapted hues. Diapers, then—figures—scrollage, are the forms which we may use. Diapers are, perhaps, the best for general adoption. Figures, and scenes from Scripture would, as a rule, necessitate the employment of an higher class of artists, than it is in the power of all to command. They seem, besides, more suitable to our more costly buildings, than to our quiet, simple, village Churches. Scrolls with illuminated texts on them are, possibly, the least desirable forms, when used *for application of colour*. They should be used for higher purposes; not as vehicles of colour. Besides, their purpose is to be read, not to be made mere ornaments. While the effect of the employment of fanciful, or mediæval letters, though productive of a great variety of colours, is, very often to make that obscure, which should be “in a tongue understood of the people.” For these reasons I should myself prefer to keep to the employment of such forms as diapers for the purposes of colour; and, where desired, to have texts of Scripture in the plain ordinary Roman letter.

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#### THE BELLS IN THORNBOROUGH CHURCH.

As the old bells in this Church have lately been taken down preparatory to the hanging of a new peal, Mr. J. E. WATKINS has kindly communicated the following description of the old bells; of which the two older have their inscription in old English characters, the other two in Roman letters:—

*Largest Bell*, diameter 45 inches.—Henrie Knight made this bell, anno domini 1610, whose name is called “Gabriell.”

*Third Bell*, diameter 40 inches.—In multis annis resonet Compana Johannis.

*Second Bell*, diam. 36 inches.—Edward Hall made me, 1736.

*First Bell*, diam. 35 inches.—Assit Principio Scā Maria Meo.—In this last, all the capital letters have crowns over them.

## ANTIQUARIAN DISCOVERIES IN BIERTON.

Early in January this year, certain excavations were commenced in a pightel belonging to Mr. JAMES BONHAM, situated eighty-five paces eastward of the Church, and abutting the road; in this little field the remains of sepulture of at least two distinct generations of men, separated from each other by long intervals of time, were found. The total number of skeletons discovered was eight, lying in the positions shown in the accompanying plan.

The bones of skeleton No. 6 were carefully collected and conveyed to an eminent comparative anatomist, who decided them to be those of a man about 5 ft. 6 in. in height, and, from the wearing down of the teeth, of upwards of 50 years old at the time of death—he had lost an arm. The large quantity of acid or superphosphate of lime in these bones, compared with the common phosphate in more recent bones, leads to the conclusion that they may have been at least two centuries in the ground.

An experienced Military Officer who has been for some months resident here, says, that it is very likely these skeletons were the remains of men wounded in some engagement, and that the whole of the field is admirably adapted for cavalry manœuvres. It is worthy of remark, as strengthening this idea, that the pond and field opposite is called "Sturricks," but which I consider is not quite correct, as "Sturt" is an old English word, implying, "to straggle," therefore, "Sturticks," is the proper word, but for the sake of euphony, the "t" has been changed into "r." This idea derives additional force from the fact that the field Sturricks runs due north, within eighty paces of Old Orchard Piece, where certain relics of a warlike nature were discovered, which have

been already described in the Second Volume of the RECORDS of this Society, page 162.

The skeletons, Nos. 3, 4, and 6, three feet below the surface, appear to have been buried in a hurried manner. The first of these was on its left side; the next face downwards; and the last seems to have suffered mutilation before death. The remains of two horses have also been found, one close to No. 6, and one at some distance from it, towards the south-west side of the field; and, along with this last, a rowel spur, such as was used a few years back, by some regiments of the Artillery; from its lightness and superior finish, it was evidently not the spur of a common trooper; it is in good preservation, and is now in the Cabinet of our Society.

There was no trace of any coffin in either case, nor any kind of covering whatever; and it is a well known fact that the dead soldier is often stript to furnish the living with clothes.

Nos. 1, 2, and 8 were lying somewhat deeper than the last three; these I am inclined to look upon as the remains of gipsies, a race of men who seem to have made their first appearance in England about the year 1512, and became sufficiently numerous in this parish to give names to two fields, one still known as Tinker's Piece, the other Pedlar's Close, trades which persons of that description follow, and which were at that time almost exclusively confined to them. Some few entries, as the following, occur in the register respecting them.

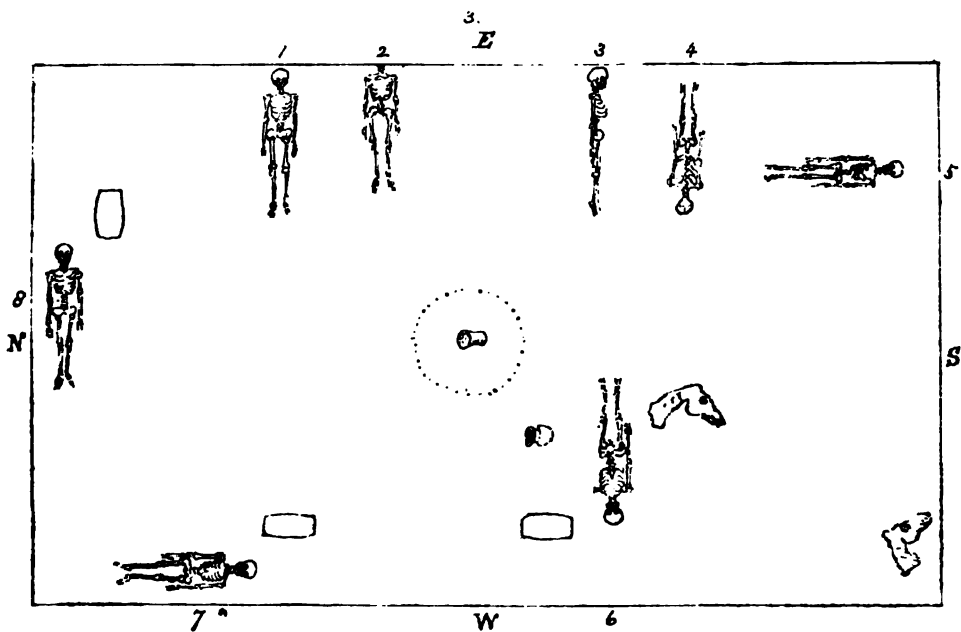
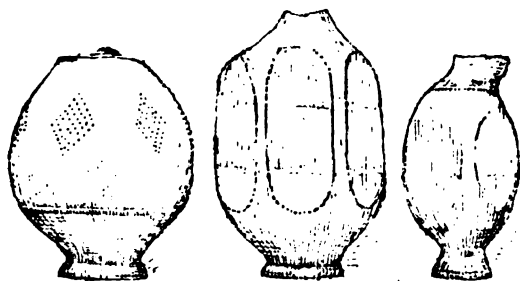
1598. EDWARD CARTON, a beggar's child, born at Broughton Farm, was baptized in June.

1612. JOYCE CUTHBERT, the daughter of a pedlar, was baptized the 6th of April.

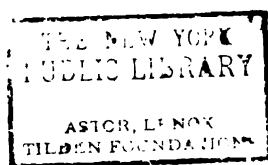
1617. JANE BARTON, a beggar's child, was baptized.

1636. DORATHY PARKER, the child of a beggar, was buried.

The Bartons were certainly gipsies, and married into the Buckland family, Timothy Buckland taking Ann Barton for his first wife; and Cuthbert's trade is mentioned. So that I think it is beyond dispute that gipsy families took up their camping ground here, and probably in good numbers. Now the piece of land in question was little better than waste land till within the memory of many still living, and formed the quoit-ground to the



1. Urns found at Birston.
2. Section showing rectangular excavations in the Chalk
3. Plan showing the position of the Skeletons Graves &c. discovered at Birston in Jan<sup>y</sup> 1861.



Valiant Yeoman public-house opposite. It is not at all unlikely that gipsies dying in the neighbourhood might be there buried, as the Romani tribe are known to bury by the road-side, in fields, or shady lanes. As an evidence of this we find in Old Mursley-lane, by the side of Stukely Dean allotment gardens, a gipsy's grave. A similar one is by the road-side, between Fenny Stratford and Simpson, and is reported to have been in good order in Feb., 1860. Another is in Carter-lane, near Quainton, by the road-side, and marked by an upright stone with the date 1641 rudely cut, and underneath some letters much defaced, which tradition affirms is the spot where the remains of a gipsy king has been interred. And I cannot help thinking that those fields in this parish, known as "High Hades," "Lower Hades," and Hades in the Cowmead, are also spots where similar remains might be found, one of the meanings to the word Hades being form, or figure.

These remains, like the others, afford no trace of coffin, a circumstance I am not surprised at, as I am informed by one who states that he was an eye-witness to the interment of Joseph and Roger Buckland, about forty years ago, in Towersey field, who were wrapped up in Witney blankets to be buried. I have no means of ascertaining the truth of this, but from the credibility of the witness, I see no reason to disbelieve it. Accepting this as true it simplifies the matter a great deal.

In the *Archæological Journal*, vol. I., page 256, occurs the following:—"Three graves which lay nearly north and south were opened, the heads towards the south, as was the case with many of those opened in the last century by Douglas, and described in his *Nenia*, the variations being only such as might be expected from the rude means possessed by the Early Saxon invaders for ascertaining the exact point of the compass."

I think this idea, taken together with the inequalities of the surface of the ground, point to a different era for the remaining two skeletons 5 and 7, which were nearly in a line taken obliquely, and about an equal distance from the tumulus occupying the centre, and on the same level. Taking these three interments in connection, they appear to have been in strict accordance with the usages of the times, and not the mere result of accident. The

tumulus is certainly much older than the graves under consideration, as the custom of burning the body had been prohibited from the time of the two Antonines, while in the tumulus the body had been reduced to ashes.

Lastly, three rectangular excavations were discovered. These also I consider to have been graves, as a quantity of ashes were found in them. They were about five feet below the surface, eighteen inches in depth, and about the same in length; and, on a level with these, were undoubted remains of a Romano British interment. In the centre was a circular excavation, one foot nine inches in depth, and about the same in diameter; this had a large sepulchral urn, fitted to it, of lead, with a rim two inches wide, spreading outwards. It was a quarter of an inch thick, but fell to pieces on being taken out. In a circle at a radius of three feet from this urn, a number of mortuary urns of a very common description were found; though common, they were probably amongst the most valuable articles the deceased possessed, and were therefore deemed most worthy to accompany his remains.

All the urns were broken, but the fragments of at least nine were carefully collected; the most perfect of which have been photographed and engraved as an illustration for this paper.

The smallest is six inches high, and square, the side of which is  $2\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide, being hollow in the centre, the mouth circular,  $2\frac{1}{4}$  inches in diameter. It has three rows of marking indentures, a quarter of an inch in length, which appear to have been made by the hand. It has a circular base  $1\frac{3}{8}$  of an inch in diameter, a small neck intervening between the body and foot. It is brown ware, glaze of leaden hue, burnt.

The second is  $7\frac{1}{2}$  inches high, heptagonal and fluted; it has also three rows of indents evidently made by the hand, and similar to the last, the diameter of the body is  $3\frac{1}{4}$  inches, and not more than one-eighth of an inch in thickness; this also had a circular base,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches in diameter. It is brown ware, burnt and glazed, and contained a quantity of glittering dust which the workmen threw away. The two next exhibit a greater amount of finish in their manufacture. One is oval, rising from a circular base about six inches in height, and the circumference 15 inches; it is very thin and of a blueish-black or slate colour, which

according to Mr. ARTIS was imparted to the pottery by suffocating the fire when its contents had reached a proper state of heat, so as to ensure a uniform colour. The sides are ornamented with seven lozenge shaped figures, the acute angles pointing in a line from the base to the top of the urn; each lozenge being composed of a number of dots pricked up with some pointed instrument.

The other is more circular, and is much broken, but has been ornamented with bars and scrolls alternating with each other, which have evidently been made in a mould, and attached to the urn. Marks of the lathe are visible in the interior. This urn was probably not of native manufacture, but an importation from the Continent.

At a distance of ten feet from the circle was another urn, somewhat in the form of a cullender; every effort was made to take it out entire, but without success. The whole group were on the south side of a branch of the Icknield way which runs by only a few paces distant.

I am happy to add that Mr. JAMES BONHAM and his son have commissioned me to present these urns to our Society.

I will close my account of the relics by briefly noticing a few of the coins that have been found, for the presence of which I account from the fact, that the spot had been used as a recreation ground, and they had probably been lost in various games of chance.

The earliest of these are the Rechen Pfenning or Nuremburgh counters, manufactured by Hanns Kravinckel, whose name appears on the reverse.

Obv: The Reichsapfel, or mound of Sovereignty within a trefoil interlaced with a triangle.

Rev: Hanns Kravinckel in NVR. three fleur-de-lis and three crowns alternately in a circle round a rose.

Legend:—GOTTES SEGÉN MACHT REICH.

There were some others also whose general features were the same, but varied in the legend. Some idea of their antiquity may be gathered from the fact, that in 1346 the Commons petitioned the Crown against the introduction of Luxemburgh coins, which are so pithily mentioned by PIERS PLOUGHMAN; and also CHAUCER, in his Prologue to the Monk's tale, recounts the fraudulent use of the

“Lusheburghes in Venus paymentes.”

Here lyeth the bodey of William Bawdyn of  
Bechampton, blacksmyth, who dyed the viij day  
of October, in the yeare of ovr Lord God, 1600.

3. Ales Baldwyn, 1611. Inscr: as follows:

Here lyeth y<sup>e</sup> body of Ales Baldwyn davght<sup>r</sup>  
to William Mathew of Calverton Esqvier,  
the wife of George Baldwyn, by whom she  
had issue 2 sonnnes and 2 daughters, viz: Willm,  
George, Iane, and Isabell, and ended her  
dayes in childbed and in y<sup>e</sup> fayth of Christ  
the xxi<sup>th</sup> of Febrvary Ano Dni

1611, Aged xxx yeares.

4. Inscr:

Will: Elmor was bvrried  
the 19<sup>th</sup> of March 1652.

CALVERTON.

John Rokys, in civil dress, & Johan his wyfe, 1519.

Inscr: as follows:

Of yo' charite pray for the soules of John Rokys &  
Johan his wyfe the whiche  
John decessed the iij day of Nouembre the yer' of o'  
lord m<sup>v</sup><sup>c</sup>xix and Johan  
decessed y<sup>e</sup> day of y<sup>e</sup> yer' of o' lord m<sup>v</sup><sup>c</sup>  
o whose soull ihu haue mey.

FOXCOTT.

Inscr:

Hic iacet Edwardvs Grenvile filivs  
tertivs Richardi Grenvile Armigeri  
de Wotton Vnderwood in hoc comitatv  
Bucks. qvi natvs fvit 12 die Septemb<sup>r</sup>  
1614, denatvs 17 die Aprilis 1661.

LECKHAMSTEAD.

Regenoldus Tylney, gentylman, & children, 1506.

Inscr: as follows:

Hic iacet Regenoldus Tylney gentylman fili' secund'  
Radulfi tylney Ciuis et alderman' London & vn' heres  
isti'

Maner qui obiit tercio dei Maii A° dñi mccccvi.

LILLINGSTONE DAYRELL.

1. Paul Dayrell Esq. in armour, and wife Margareta, on altar tomb, 1491. Inscr: as follows:

Hic iacet paulus dayrell Armig' et Margareta vxor eius  
qui quidem  
paulus obiit xxix° die Marcii A° dñi mcccc°lxxxxi q̄  
aiabs ppiciet' de'

2. Ricus Blakysley—priest in chasuble—head lost. 1493.

Inscr: as follows:

hic sub pede iacet dñs Ricus blakysley quondm  
Rector istius ecclie q' obiit sexto die aprilis A° dñi  
m°cccc°lxxxiii° cui' aie ppiciet' de' amen.

LOUGHTON.

1. Hugo Parke—priest in chasuble— $\frac{1}{2}$  fig. C. 1510.

Inscr: as follows:

hic iacet hugo parke quondam istius ecclie Rector  
in artibus magister sacreque theologic bacularius.

2. Inscr:

In spem Resvrrrectionis  
Depositum hic iacet corpus FELICIE CRANE  
de Loughton vidue cuius vita & obitus  
Marmoreo Monum<sup>to</sup> a latere Boreali huius  
templi plenius memorantur.  
Nomine natvra pietate et fynere felix  
In Christo vixi nvbuiq' qviesco resvrgam  
Ob: 7 Sept: 1622.

MAIDS MORTON.

Two shields, on each of which a chevron charged with three fleur-de-lis; figures and inscription lost.

According to Browne Willis this brass was in memory of two maiden sisters of the family of Peovers, who rebuilt the Church, C. 1450; he thus blazons the arms: Ar. on a chevron gu. 3 fleur-de-lis, or.

**SHERNLEY.**

1. Inscr: loose.

Hic iacet Anna quondā vxor Joh̄is Kyrkcham Armig<sup>er</sup>  
guinea & heres Ph̄i de la vache Militis que obiit  
Nouembr' Anno dñi m<sup>o</sup>cccc<sup>o</sup>xxvii<sup>o</sup> cui aie<sup>re</sup> ppiciet' de  
Amen.

2. Inscr: loose. (eff. lost)

Hic iacet Thomas Thurleby quondā Rector isti' ecclīe  
 qui obiit  
 xvi<sup>o</sup> die Junii Anno dñi m<sup>o</sup>cccc<sup>o</sup>xxxix<sup>o</sup> cui' aīe ppiciet'  
 de' Amen.

STOWE.

1. Alicia Saundres 147—.Inscr: (partly lost) as follows:

Hic iacet Alicia Saundres.....  
 Septebr' A<sup>o</sup> dñi M<sup>o</sup>CCCC<sup>o</sup>LXX.....

- 2. John Temple, infant, 1592. Inscr: as follows:**

Here lyeth bvyryed the bodie of  
Iohn Temple the seconde sonne  
of Thomas Temple Esquier and of  
Hester his wife: the day of his berth  
was the xxxi daye of October anno  
Dni 1592 & he died the first day of  
Ianuarii in the same ycare A° Dni 1592.

- 3. Inscr:**

Here Lies The Body Of  
Tho<sup>s</sup> Dayrell Gen<sup>t</sup>  
Of This Parish Who  
Departed This Life  
June 14<sup>th</sup>, 1744 Aged 39.

THORNBOROUGH.

1. Willius Barton, in civil dress, & wife—date of engraving C. 1420. Inscr: as follows:—

Hic iacet Willius Barton qui obiit in festo Translacois  
 Sci Benedicti Abbtis  
 Anno dni Millo ccc<sup>o</sup>LXXXIX<sup>o</sup> et Regni Regis Ric<sup>i</sup> Sed<sup>i</sup>  
 XIII incipiente quando  
 dies dñcalis accidit sup lram c hora vespar cuius  
 aie ppicietur ds Amen.

2. Inscr:

Hic iacet dns Johes Crowche Capellari' qui quondā  
 hic celebravit p  
 aiab' Johis Barton senioris et Junioris qui quidē dns  
 Johis Crowche  
 obiit viii<sup>o</sup> die Maii A<sup>o</sup> dni m<sup>o</sup>cccc<sup>o</sup>LXXXIII<sup>o</sup> lra dñcali  
 c cui' aie ppiciet' deus.

3. Inscr:

Hear: lieth: the: boody  
 of: Dorothy: Steuens  
 Wife: of Iohn: Butcher  
 and: afterwards: the  
 wife: of Iohn: Steuens  
 who: departed: this  
 li: Aug: the: 16: Age<sup>d</sup>. 79  
 1685

4. Inscr:

Hear: lieth: the  
 boody: of: Elisabeth  
 Woollhed: the  
 wife: of: Iohn  
 Woollhed: who  
 departed: this lif=  
 Noum: the: 14 her  
 Age<sup>d</sup>: 63 1696

5. Hear: lieth: the  
 boody: of Iohn: Wooll  
 hed: who: departed  
 this: I: Oct: the 20  
 his: age<sup>d</sup>: 89  
 1709.

THORNTON.

1. Robt' Ingylton Esq. in armour, & 3 wives. 1472.  
 Inscr: as follows:

Armiger Ecce pius Jacet Hic tellure Robt'  
 Ingylton domin' de Thornteton jur' patron'  
 In quītodecimo moriens Octobr' ab orbe  
 Ad celos transit: mil' c quat' hec 72: simul adde  
 Sit sibi ppicia: Celi Regina: Maria  
 Saluet eum xpc Matris amore deus.

2. Jana Seynct Johns, 1557.

Inscr: (first inscr: marginal) as follows:

Hic iacet Jana Yngleton filia et sola heres Roberti |  
 Yngleton Armigeri defuncti dñā de Thornton ac  
 patronat' eiusdm̄ ecclīe quondam vxor Humfridi Tyrrell  
 Armiger etiam defunct' ac nuper vxor Alexander Seynct  
 Johns | Armigeri que Jana obiit vicesimo quarto die  
 mensis Aprilis | Anno dñi Melesimo Quingentesimo  
 Quinquagesimo Septimo, Et predict' Jana fuit  
 quinquagint' quq<sup>o</sup> Annos natus die obiit sui cuius  
 anime propicietur deus. |

Et predicta Jana habuit exit' Georgm̄ Terrell fil̄m  
 suū apparunt' et predict' Georgius fuit vigint' et  
 septem annos natus die quo predict' Jana obiit.

## THE GARRISON OF NEWPORT PAGNELL DURING THE CIVIL WARS.

BY REV. H. ROUNDELL.

(Continued from page 241.)

At the commencement of the following year of 1645, all apprehension of an immediate attack on Newport by the King's forces had subsided. Sir Samuel Luke went to London to resume his attendance in the House of Commons, then discussing the Self-denying Ordinance, the New Modelling of the Army, and the Matter of Church Government, all subjects in which he took a deep interest. In his temporary absence, which was prolonged by his appointment upon a Committee for Army Affairs,\* Lieutenant Colonel Cockayne seems to have held the command at Newport, for his name appears attached to an Order, bearing date the 19th of January, and issued in compliance with an injunction of the Committee of Both Kingdoms, to Captain Bladwell to march with three hundred foot of the Newport garrison to Aylesbury, and thence to Farnham to await further instructions.† But the weakening of the garrison by the withdrawal of these troops, coupled with the absence of the Governor, and the supposed indifference of Parliament to the security of the place, awakened an expectation at Oxford that an attack on Newport would be accompanied with an easy success. The plans of this expedition were however scarcely matured, when they were discovered and communicated in full detail by one of Luke's spies. He reported that on Sunday, the 26th of January, intelligence from the Royalists at Newport reached the King at Oxford that about half the works had fallen down, and that there were not more than two hundred soldiers in the town; that on Tuesday, the 28th inst., Sir John Digby had a conference

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\* *Commons Journals*, Die Lunæ, Januarii 27<sup>o</sup>, 1644.

† Egerton MS., No. 785, folio 50 b.

of three hours with his Majesty, who countermanded his former orders, and directed him to join his troops with fifteen hundred of Goring's forces, and assemble near Chipping Norton on Friday the 31st. He further reported a conversation of his own with Mr. James Digby, from whom he learnt that this expedition was really intended against Newport, and would be commanded by Sir Lewis Dives and Sir John Digby, and that Newport was expected to be a garrison of the Royal troops before April, "for" said Mr. Digby, "though the Parliament was very earnest in makeing " it a Garrison, yett now they grow weary of the charge " of it, and will not allow men sufficient to keepe halfe " those workes that are there, soe that it will bee noe " difficult matter to gett it, if the wayes were fitteing to " march wth ffoote."\* This timely intelligence and the delay in carrying out the projected attack caused by the impassability of the roads, probably saved Newport, for before Digby could commence his march, the House of Commons on a Report presented by Oliver Cromwell, sent down five hundred pounds to that garrison, and on the 30th of January ordered Luke's instant return to his command,† while the discovery of the intended expedition and the means taken to defeat it were announced in two of the Parliamentary Journals,‡ and within a few days the House of Lords passed a fresh Ordinance for providing for the greater security of their garrison at Newport.§

To gain further intelligence of the threatened attack, Captain Ennis had gone out towards Oxford to reconnoitre. He soon heard of a party of the King's troops at Bicester, and perhaps emboldened by his success there the preceding summer, and having prudently first made himself acquainted with their numbers and position, surprised them in their quarters, and took prisoners a Captain, a Lieutenant, and about ten others, with whom he returned safe to Newport without the loss of a man killed, wounded, or missing.|| He only staid long enough to

\* Egerton MS., No. 785, folio 88 b.

† Whitelock's *Memorials*, folio 1732, page 127.

‡ *Perfect Diurnall*, January 27 to February 3, 1644, and *Perfect Passages*, Wednesday, January 29 to February 5, 1644.

§ *Lords Journals*, Die Lunæ 10<sup>o</sup> die Februarii, 1644.

|| *Weekly Account*, January 29 to February 5, 1645.

place his prisoners in safe custody and receive fresh orders, and then went with his troop beyond Brackley to the neighbourhood of Aynhoe in Northamptonshire, where an outpost of the enemy quartered in Mr. Cartwright's house, but on his approach retired to Bloxham, under the protection of Banbury Castle.\* Here he was soon joined by another troop from Aylesbury under Captain Abercromby, and continued to watch and report upon the movements of the King's army along their line between Oxford and Banbury during the month of February. On one occasion he succeeded in capturing a detachment of sixty soldiers at Kiddington near Oxford, whom he sent to Aylesbury,† for which, and his other services, he was rewarded by a Major's Commission, and upon the Order of the House of Commons received forty pair of pistols, twenty carbines, and thirty saddles, for the use of his troop.‡

*March 1645.* This well-earned acknowledgment of Ennis's merit, created a serious jealousy in the garrison at Newport. Captain Andrewes, another officer, a few months his senior in the army, thought himself aggrieved by Ennis's promotion, which he erroneously believed had been obtained by the Governor's private influence and to the disparagement of his own services. The quarrel between the two officers proceeded so far that Sir Oliver Luke, father of Sir Samuel, was obliged personally to attend Lord Essex, who at first asked whether the Governor of Newport had not settled the difference, and when this was represented to be impossible, suggested that Ennis should give up the Majority, for which he quoted as a precedent the resignation of Colonel Middleton under circumstances somewhat similar, a proposal very properly resisted by Sir Oliver.§ Nothing short of an appointment to be Lieutenant-Colonel would satisfy Andrewes, and his uncle Sir Peter Temple wrote to Luke asking him to use his influence to obtain it for his nephew. This Sir Samuel positively declined, alleging that he had never solicited from Lord Essex any higher Commission for any one than that

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\* Egerton MS., No. 785, folio 52 b.

† *Perfect Occurrences*, February 28 to March 7, 1645.

‡ *Commons Journals*, Die Mercurii, Martii 5<sup>o</sup>, 1644.

§ Egerton MS., No. 787, folio 73.

of Captain, and that it was undesirable to have officers of any superior rank at Newport, both as interfering with his own authority and being more chargeable to the Parliament. Writing to his father on this dispute, Luke says, "I conceive it will be impossible to keepe these two troopes of Ennis and Andrewes together and to doe any service for ye Commonwealth for there is such a deadly feude between them that they will never agree, and Andrewes is soe indiscreete in carriage of it, that I cannot hope for any good from him or is troope, hee being heightened and cherished in his discontents by his friends."\* With great judgment Luke shortly sent away Major Ennis with about one hundred and sixty horse to Belvoir, and afterwards to Newark, where they were to assume the disguise of cavaliers and seek an opportunity to surprise the enemy. And the day after Ennis's departure he ordered Captain Andrewes with a small force of twenty troopers to Stowe, near Buckingham, to obtain intelligence. While upon this expedition Andrews was apprised of a party of eighteen of the King's soldiers lying at Finmere, and without halting his men rode on, and ordered an instant charge. The Royalists, taken by surprise, fled towards Bicester, and attempting a rally in the open fields near Fringford, in Oxon, were overtaken and lost their Cornet and almost the whole of their men, who surrendered.† Even this success did not gain for Andrewes the coveted Lieutenant Colonelcy. Luke, while he acknowledged the importance of the service rendered, remained firm in his reply to Sir Peter Temple, and the subsequent conduct of Andrewes proved the Governor's discretion, for when ordered by the House of Lords to march to Warwick, Andrewes refused obedience, and was only ultimately prevailed upon to go by Sir Samuel "with a great deale of trouble and not without some danger."

The dispute between Ennis and Andrewes was no sooner disposed of by their employment on these different services, than a fresh contention disturbed the peace of the Garrison. Two other Captains, Oxford and Whit-

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\* Egerton MS., No. 785, folio 84 b.

† *Mercurius Civicus*, March 20-27, 1645.

bread, each claimed the command of the senior Company. Captain Oxford produced a Commission from the Earl of Essex that such a Company had been given him at Edgehill, while Captain Whitbread was able to prove that he had served as Lieutenant till he had a Commission as Captain of Dragoons from Sir William Waller, earlier in date than that of his competitor. Luke begged the Earl of Essex not to interfere in this squabble, and the claims of the two rival Captains were submitted to the arbitration of a Council of the officers of the Newport Garrison. They determined in favour of Whitbread, but at Captain Oxford's request withheld their decision for a fortnight.\*

The settlement of these differences between his officers did not divert the Governor's attention from his other duties. During this month two companies of the Earl of Manchester's Dragoons stationed at Newport for its defence were withdrawn, and when Lord Essex and Colonel Tyrell both pressed him to come to London to settle the dispute between Andrewes and Ennis, Luke begged to be excused, alledging that the weather was at that time very favourable for the repair of the earthworks, that there was an expectation of the enemies approach to Newport, and that Major Ennis's troop was still absent.† Luke was fully occupied. He had to watch carefully against the quartering of other forces of the Parliament within the three hundreds of Newport to the impoverishment of the country, and the inconvenience of his own soldiers. By the simple expedient of appointing one of the Hertfordshire Committee to be Collector for the garrison, and promising him sixpence in the pound, a percentage which old Sir Oliver thought too liberal, the stream of supplies which had hitherto moved so sluggishly was flowing rapidly to Newport. Money poured in from the Contributory Counties. Five hundred pounds were sent from Suffolk, three hundred from Cambridge, three hundred from Essex, one hundred from Huntingdon, and three hundred more out of a fine of three hundred and fifty pounds levied upon Captain Pinkeney by Mr. Love, "our carefull and faithfull

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\* Egerton MS., No. 787, folio 12.

† Id., No. 786, folio 73 b.

agent.”\* The Committee of Norfolk appear to have complained of this application of Pinkeney’s fine, and of the use made of the Letters of the House of Lords to extort money, but as they had sent no money, and as it appeared had rather hindered further supplies, Luke curtly assured them that the money had been duly received and spent among the soldiers, that it was very little to what he wanted, and that he was led to expect that within fourteen days they would pay him a thousand pounds, for he knew them to be a wise and able Committee.

Even if no arrears of pay had been due to the soldiers, the whole of these sums would have been soon expended. Empowered by a special Order of Parliament† and by the compulsion of the usual Warrants Luke obtained from Bedfordshire six hundred labourers and twenty carts and teams, but as the Ordinance required that the men employed should receive the ordinary wages for their service, he had to pay the men eight pence a day apiece, and four shillings a day for each cart and team. By the 19th of March between three and four thousand workmen were engaged upon the fortifications, and the Governor was intending to increase the numbers by further summons to the neighbouring villages. The enormous expenditure at Newport, though unquestionably not larger than necessary to repair the works, soon attracted public notice. Mr. Grimston in the House of Commons called attention to the heavy charge of this garrison upon the Associated Counties, and complained that the Treasurer’s accounts were not obtainable. Sir Oliver Luke replied that the Treasurer had been twice to Cambridge and had offered to produce his accounts, which the Committee refused to accept. After debate the question was referred to the Committee of the Associated Counties together with the County and Borough members of Bucks, Northamptonshire, and Bedfordshire.‡

Another cause combined to add to the expenses at Newport. The successes of Ennis, Temple, and others in the numerous border forays upon the enemy in Oxfordshire and Bucks had filled the gaols within the town with

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\* Egerton MS., No. 785, folio 77.

† *Commons Journals*, Die Mercurii, Martii 5o, 1644.

‡ Egerton MS., No. 787, folio 84.

prisoners for the most part requiring the ordinary necessities of life. By the common custom of these wars, their money, and even their clothes were esteemed the lawful reward of their captors, and Newport soldiers, themselves ill paid, ill clothed, and scantily fed, were never remarkable for their lenient dealing with those royalists who fell into their hands. Luke effected some exchanges of prisoners with the Governors of Oxford and Banbury, and applied to Sir William Brereton for permission to send twenty more to Bedford, and wrote to the Earl of Essex for advice and orders. In another letter he asks for increased power of search for concealed arms in the houses of the Gentry round Newport.

*May it please your Ex.*

*The latest newes y<sup>t</sup> is come to my hands yo<sup>r</sup> Ex: shall rec herein inclosed, the litle noate came to my hands this morneing, o<sup>r</sup> wants of Victualls, & Amunicon heere, have beene soe rung in yo<sup>r</sup> Ex: eares, & y<sup>e</sup> have so often prest it to y<sup>e</sup> Com<sup>tees</sup> of both Kingdomes soe much, y<sup>t</sup> I dispaire of ever obtaining them. There shall bee nothing wanting in mee to doe w<sup>t</sup> I am able, but if they come suddainly the world will not expect y<sup>t</sup> I can hold out long being soe Ill puided, except some unexpected supply comes to mee, The enemyes confidence is greater than my hope can ballance, yet I hope y<sup>e</sup> world shall see I shall not bee wanting, if there was Comand for y<sup>e</sup> Com<sup>tees</sup> of Northton and y<sup>e</sup> officers heere, to search all Gentlemans houses neare both places for Armes, I doubt not but there will bee greate stoare found for though they lye under o<sup>r</sup> Roofes, yet y<sup>e</sup> Parl hath allowed us noe authority to punish y<sup>m</sup>, & therefore they cannot, being Newters in show but if I am not deceived Arch malignants in their harts, bee refined of their Malignancy, Newport fforces are now come home w<sup>h</sup> is a greater supply to mee than I could have expected, neverthesse lett mee intreate yo<sup>r</sup> Ex: to beeleve, y<sup>t</sup> ye workes of Newport cannot bee maintayned under 2000 men, & though there are some, y<sup>t</sup> to spaire their neighbours & their owne purse, thinkes 1200 too many, w<sup>h</sup> I confesse if ye Parl will looke for nothing from us, or noe enemy come neare us, it is truth. Then humbly beging*

*pardon for this my boldnesse I most humbly kisse yo<sup>r</sup> Ex:  
hand & rest.*

*Newport March: 28<sup>th</sup>  
1645.*

*Yo<sup>r</sup> Ex: most humble  
Seruant.  
S. L.\**

On the same day this letter was written the Committee of Aylesbury, who had been assured that four well mounted soldiers from Oxford had reconnoitred the fortifications of Newport, authorized Luke to take a hundred loads of timber from the Earl of Antrim's woods at Whaddon, and two thousand poles from the College woods there.† Mr. Pelham Moore sent off from London in two waggons, a quantity of Match, Musquets, Swords, &c., and by another conveyance, sixty beds, three cases of pistols, more than six dozen shovels and spades, which had "cost ready mony 18s. per doz: being ye best "sorte, and most seruiceable bec steele," together with three Drums.‡

*April 1645.* When after long debates the Self-denying Ordinance had passed, Luke, as Member for Bedford, became ineligible to continue in chief command at Newport longer than the forty days allowed by the Act. He did not however relax his efforts for the security and efficiency of the garrison. He endeavoured to diminish the number of the prisoners, offering to exchange with Sir William Compton, twenty, thirty, or forty men.§ He sent out rigorous Warrants for provisions to be brought to Newport from the Three Hundreds of Ashendon in Bucks, hoping thus to diminish the resources of the Royalist garrison at Borstall, as well as supply himself.|| Early in the month he recalled Major Ennis from his post of observation beyond Brackley, and after the issue of the Ashendon warrants, tried to persuade the troop to undertake a fresh expedition in their support against the enemy at Borstall, a service which the soldiers sullenly refused. Luke then renewed his applications for money and ammunitions of war to the Associated Counties. The supplies had indeed been scanty. In a Letter to the Earl of Essex he states that he had only received £10,000 during

\* Egerton MS., No. 787, folio 9 b. † Id., folio 89 b. ‡ Id., folio 53.  
§ Id., folio 26. || Id., folio 40 b.

sixteen months,\* and the payment of the workmen employed upon the repair of the fortifications had left little out of this sum to discharge the arrears owing to the troops. Luke was however expecting his agent, Mr. Love, to return to Newport this month with supplies of money raised in the Association. In this expectation he was disappointed. The agent came back, punctual to his engagement, but brought very little money, for the Norwich Committee on whom he had mainly relied had been assured by Sir John Potts that they need not pay any more sums to Newport garrison, for the Parliament would provide it in some other way.†

It is well known that during the spring of this year the Parliament's forces in Buckinghamshire were rapidly approaching a state of utter demoralization, and Luke's soldiers did not escape the general infection. Sixty troopers belonging to a detachment of the garrison under Lieutenant Corneley's command plundered Aspley in Bedfordshire, and were committing other outrages, till seven of them were arrested by a party of gentlemen and others, assembled hastily in self-defence, and sent to Newport to be tried by Court Martial.‡ Indeed Luke had been privately assured that such disaffection existed in another company of the Newport horse, that, if ordered, they would probably refuse to march, and therefore when he received intelligence that a small party of the enemy would go out of Banbury Castle to intercept a convoy, he could only send fifty foot soldiers for its protection.§ In the midst of these embarrassments orders from London reached Luke to supply a contingent of two hundred horse to go to Warwick and join Colonel Massey's army.|| For this service the Governor selected his own troop then at Newport, and that of Captain Andrewes, quartered at Cosgrove. At these orders the smouldering discontent kindled into open flame. The men at Cosgrove refused to march. They addressed a violent letter to Sir Samuel, stating that they had only received four weeks pay at

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\* Egerton MS., No. 787, folio 60 b. † Id., folio 23 b.

‡ *Perfect Occurrences* from April 11, to April 18, 1645.

§ Egerton MS., No. 787, folio 61.

|| *Diary or An Exact Journal*, Thursday 17 April, to Thursday, 24 April, 1645.

fourteen shillings a week during the last four months, and had had to pay their own quarters; they required the immediate discharge of their arrears, threatening an appeal to Parliament, and concluding with the following pithy postscript. "Our demaunds is ten weekes pay at ye least, & therefore put us not of wth ye Cocking of a Pistoll or stearne threatening as upon ye like occasion hath beene formerly."\* It happened that the Committee of Both Kingdoms when ordering these reinforcements to be sent to Massey, had directed a fortnights pay to all the soldiers employed on this service, and had sent down a supply of money for the purpose.† This had the effect of calming the discontent, and Luke wisely determining to overlook their mutinous letter, the two Companies after a delay of some days were induced to march under the command of Major Bridges. On reaching Warwick they found the other troops from Aylesbury and Northampton, whom they had been ordered to join, had not waited for them, but gone on to Massey's army. But their unexpected arrival was well timed. The King's garrison at Worcester, believing the neighbourhood of Warwick to be left undefended, had sent out a small body of horse, who had approached to within a mile of the town, levying contributions and capturing several prisoners. Major Bridges rested his men a single night, and then, aided by the troops in Warwick, marched suddenly upon the enemy, whom he defeated after a short but severe struggle, taking about sixty prisoners, and a stand of colours, and recovering all the plunder they had captured. This victory was gained upon Friday the eighteenth of April.‡

At the close of the month Luke addressed the following Dispatch to the speaker of the House of Commons:—

*To the Speaker.*

*Honored S<sup>r</sup>.*

*The tyme of ye Ordinance for calling up yor members being neere expirency I cannot but acquaint yu wth ye condicon of this place, w<sup>ch</sup> I shall leave wth all ye chearefulnessse yt may bee to serue yu & ye Kingdome in yt*

\* Egerton MS., No. 787, folio 49 b.

† *Commons Journals*, Die Veneris Aprilis 11<sup>o</sup>, 1645.

‡ *Perfect Diurnall*; from Monday the 21 of April, till Monday the 28 of April, 1645.

*place, where yu thinke mee fittest, & therefore yt I may doe it wthout any disadvantage to y<sup>e</sup> or ye Kingdome, I shall desire yu yt yu will take some care for puiding some mony for satisfying soldiers & workemen, not knowing w<sup>t</sup> effects necessity & change of a Govnor may worke amgt<sup>t</sup> ym, yu have heere 1160 ffoote & 250 horse, belonging to ye Garr: w<sup>h</sup> if I am not deceived, have beene rayased & pd wth soe little a charge, yt none of ye Countyes will have cause to complaine when their Com<sup>tees</sup> have beene heere, & taken their accompts I confesse ye keepeing in of my L<sup>t</sup>. Col (who is their Contryman) will bee a greate meanes to keepe ym together, but wthout mony they cannot long subsist, now I have acquainted yu wth ye truth humbly submitt all & rest.*

*Yo<sup>r</sup> most humble servant.*

*Apr: 28<sup>a</sup>. 1645.*

*S. L.\**

When thus expecting shortly to relinquish his Command, Luke wished to have a commission in the army as Captain of a troop of horse, and asked his father to apply for it to the Earl of Essex, but it does not appear that he obtained it. He was more anxious as his dispatch to the Speaker intimates, that his kinsman, Lieutenant Colonel Cockayne, who had been serving under him in the garrison, should succeed him as Governor. He wrote in his behalf to the Earl of Northumberland, Mr. Pelham Moore, Sir Peter Wentworth, and others, and even prevailed upon some of the inhabitants of the town to amend a Petition for his own continuance in favour of Cockayne. The Commons had elected a Committee to recommend to the House the names of the officers to fill the appointments vacated under the recent Ordinance. On the 10th of April the nomination of the Governor of Newport Pagnell came on in this committee, and there were several candidates. Captains Harvey, D'Oyley, and Hale were all named, and at last Sir Oliver Luke proposed Cockayne, and hoped to carry his motion, but the debate was adjourned.† The discussion was resumed on the 14th instant, when there were "diverse competitors and much labouring of friends on all sides," and the decision was again postponed. In the meantime Cockayne came up to London to canvass his

\* Egerton MS., No. 787, folio 56.

† Id., folio 41.

friends and make interest, and upon the second adjournment gives Luke an account of his prospects.

*S<sup>r</sup>*

*Although Tuesday was ye day appointed for o<sup>r</sup> businesse yet it was putt of till Thursday next but w<sup>t</sup> will bee ye issue wee know not, wee have few ag<sup>t</sup> us wee suppose but M<sup>r</sup>. Browne whom wee labour very much to take of I cannot acquaint y<sup>u</sup> who are for us in pticular bec: y<sup>u</sup> know noe man knowes his ffriends before they trye y<sup>m</sup>, but I am confident y<sup>t</sup> my Lo: Gen<sup>l</sup> & all y<sup>t</sup> pty are very right for us, & if wee had but ye Independent pty one our side wee could assure y<sup>u</sup> more, there is much excepcons taken ag<sup>t</sup> y<sup>u</sup>, & all ye officers of yor Garr: for not fovouring ye good pty as they call y<sup>m</sup>, but Col: fleetwoode one of y<sup>t</sup> party hath desired mee yt if ye comaund fall to mee, I would give y<sup>m</sup> ye best incouragem<sup>t</sup> I can. here is noe newes at all, but ye newes of Layiny downe of Comissions, w<sup>h</sup> indeed is noe Newes, for I thinke there will bee none at all shortly to lay downe. The officers dayly desert S<sup>r</sup> Tho Ffairfax especially ye old officers. S<sup>r</sup> soe soone as any thing shall bee done in this businesse wee are about, yu shall bee sure to have an account from him yt is & ever shall bee.*

*Yors. to serue yu.*

14<sup>o</sup> Apr: 1645.

*Rich: Cockayn.\**

*Newport. (?)*

On Thursday the 17th the Committee came to a final vote. "This afternoone," writes Sir Oliver Luke to his son, "ye Gouvernor of Newport hath beenc fully debated & wth much difficulty & doubt it was in ye end determined upon yor L<sup>t</sup>: Col: soe farr as ye Com<sup>tee</sup> hath power. The house yu knowe may crosse it but it is not likely. The Competicons were Haruey, Hale, Doyley, & Tompson; Haruey was first put to Question whether hee should bee first named, hee missed it, Cockayne being ye next carryed it, both for being first put & the place, Hollis & S<sup>r</sup> P: Stapleton played their pts for y<sup>u</sup>, of wch yu may doe well to take notice with a Lre of thanks. \* \* \* \*

O. L.

April 17<sup>th</sup> 1645.

"I pray gett up yo<sup>r</sup> mony as fast as yu can & make hast away as yu may after ye other is established.†

\* Egerton MS, No. 787, folio 48.

† Id., folio 41.

*May 1645.* The vote of the preceding month did not invest Cockayne with the full power of Governor of Newport. The choice of the Committee extended only to a recommendation to the House to elect, and as strong opposition had been made to Cockayne in Committee, it was not to be expected that his nomination would be silently agreed to in the House. Seven days after the resolution in his favour had passed the Committee of the Commons, the Committee at Aylesbury wrote to the Speaker alledging charges of complaint against him, and when on the ninth of May his nomination came on for confirmation by the whole House, this letter, and another with similar allegations from Mr. Edward West, were read. In reply a Petition from the inhabitants of Newport Pagnell for his appointment was presented.\* A debate followed. The opposition was led by Sir Peter Wentworth, whom Luke had vainly endeavoured to conciliate, and Sir William Masham, while the recommendation of the Committee was upheld by Mr Holles and Sir Philip Stapleton. Sir Simons D'Ewes, whose manuscript Diary in the British Museum affords very valuable information of the proceedings of the Long Parliament, notices this Debate as follows:—

*May 9<sup>th</sup>, ffriday, 1645. I came into the house betweene 12 & 1, and found them in debate upon Mr. Hollis his report from the Committee of Lorde & Commons who had been appointed to nominate new Governours in Isles Citties Townes, Castles etc in lieu of the members of either house. There had been just before my coming in a long debate about one Colonel Cockaine whom the Committee had nominated to be Governour of Newport Pagnel, and just upon my coming in the question was put whether the Question should be then put or noe, I was a Noe, and the house being divided the Noes went out and carried it by some 7 voices and the matter for nominating a Governour for Newport Pagnel was referred backe againe to the Committee of Lords and Commons, As was also the examinacon of an informacon given in against Colonel Cockaine by some of the Committee at Newport Pagnel.†*

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\* *Perfect Diurnall*, from Monday the 5 of May, to Monday the 12 of May, 1645.

† Harleian MS., No. 166, folio 207 b.

The actual number of members voting were; In favour of confirming the recommendation of Colonel Cockayne by the Committee, fifty-three; Against it, sixty.\* By this decision no appointment was made to Newport; and the whole question of the Governorship of that town referred back to the Committee, who were also directed to investigate the charges made against Cockayne. What was the precise nature of these charges cannot be ascertained from the Journals of either House, nor the Diary of D'Ewes, nor Luke's Dispatch-book, nor the Periodicals of those times, but that they were not substantiated to the satisfaction of the Committee may be inferred from an expression in a letter of Sir Oliver Luke to his son, in which he says of Cockayne, "he will cleare himselfe of all ye aspcions charged in ye  
 "Lre & as I pceive by some of ye pty, yt they purpose  
 "most of all to stand upon ye chooseing some old ex-  
 "perienced soldiers, being a Towne of great importance,  
 "whch if stood upon at first had beene reasonable, but  
 "as ye case stands I see not now how hee can be righted,  
 "wthout haveing the place."† At this time the Commons directed the Committee of the Association to consider, How monies might be raised for constant Pay to the Garrisons of *Newport Pagnall* and other places, upon a settled Establishment: and likewise, How to reduce the said Garrisons to a less Expence for the Ease of the Counties, providing withal for their Safety and Defence,‡ and with this new business pressing upon the Association, and the intrigues avoiding the Committee for filling the vacant appointments under the Self-denying Ordinance, no appointment of a new Governor had been made on the 26th of May, and Luke was still in full command. Events soon occurred which materially altered the aspect of affairs at Newport.

(To be continued.)

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\* *Commons Journals*, Die Veneris, Maii 9<sup>o</sup>, 1645.

† *Egerton MS.*, No. 786, folio 84.

‡ *Commons Journals*, Die Mercurii Maii 21<sup>o</sup>, 1645.

### THE BLEDLOW CROSS.

An account of this Cross, by the Rev. Arthur Baker, is given in the RECORDS, vol. I.—222; but as the following communication from Mr. Clarke, of Haddenham, contains some additional particulars on the subject, it will be read with interest. In a letter to the Rev. Charles Lowndes, Mr. Clarke says—

“The Cross is situated above the Wainhill Hamlet, on the Chiltern range of hills on an estate belonging to Eton College; and the farm was in my father’s occupation as tenant and lessee for forty years from 1802.

“The Cross itself was so completely overgrown at that time, that I have heard him say, he had held the farm for some years before he knew one existed, and merely discovered it by accidentally walking over it.

“I have, however, been told by some of the old men in Bledlow, that the shepherds while tending their flocks many years since, were in the habit of clearing it out for amusement, but if so, it was evidently very imperfectly done.

“Having always possessed something of a taste for Antiquities, about 25 years since I started a subscription among the parishioners and had it properly scoured, and once since I believe I had it done on my own account.

“For some years past the steward of the College has liberally contributed to the scouring when necessary, and about three years since, the burser gave me directions to have it well done. It is now in very good order.

“At that part of the hill the soil is thick, and the chalk consequently at a considerable depth from the surface, this of course diminishes the effect of the figure, except it be viewed in a direct line with the nave; it also lies at rather too low an angle to be well brought into view from the plain below, being too much in the plane of the eye.

A base, similar to the 'White Cliff,' would also very much improve its figure."

Its dimensions as given by Mr. Clarke, are—the nave 74 feet by 17 feet, the arms, or transepts, each 35 feet by 13 feet 6 inches.

It is extremely gratifying to find that this interesting relic of antiquity has been carefully preserved by Mr. Clarke and his father; otherwise by this time it might have been entirely obliterated. It will, however, be observed, by comparing its dimensions in Mr. Clarke's account with those given by Mr. Baker, that they do not agree. Mr. Baker measured the Bledlow Cross in 1848, and states that it then consisted of "four equal limbs, 30 feet by 15 feet each." From Mr. Clarke's account the dimensions appear to have been since enlarged. This must have been caused by the scourings which it has since undergone, and shows how necessary it is that this work should be performed with great care and judgment. Perhaps the most likely way to insure the proper performance of the work would be to make it an annual parochial custom, or a day of rejoicing, always taking care to have "the scouring" performed under the supervision of some competent person. The White-leaf Cross and the Bledlow Cross are perhaps the most remarkable and interesting antiquities in Buckinghamshire, and every possible means should be adopted to preserve them in their pristine integrity; and as they are so near to each other, what could be more easy and desirable than to have them both scoured on the same day?

Mr. Clarke suggests that a base similar to that at the White-leaf Cross should be added to the Bledlow Cross; but, I am sure he will see, from what has already been said that this would destroy its true character and rob it of its real value as an object of antiquity.<sup>1</sup> Its present form shews that neither of the crosses was copied from the other; and that the Bledlow Cross is probably the more ancient of the two.

W. H. K.

## PROCEEDINGS OF THE SOCIETY.

A General Meeting was held on Tuesday, January 22nd, in the large room of the White Hart Hotel. Ven. Archdeacon Bickersteth in the chair.

The following new Members were elected; Mrs. Richardson Currer, Eshton Hall, Gargrave; H. Gough, Esq., 4, Serle-street, Lincoln's Inn; Rev. H. C. Hart, Eastbourne; W. H. Reynolds, Esq., Thame; Rev. W. Uthwatt, Maidsmorton; Rev. R. Loxam, Great Lever, Bolton; Rev. N. T. Garry, Aylesbury; Rev. E. Bonus, Buckland; J. O. Cuffe, Esq., Little Missenden; Mr. R. Greaves, Tingewick; Rev. A. W. Howell, Aylesbury.

The Rev. C. Lowndes reported that the following presentations had been made to the Society:—Peter Martyr's Treatise (black letter), Excise on Salt, 1699; Excise on Beer, 1722; Secret History of Queen Elizabeth, 1702; Two Almanacks, 1747, 1702, by the Rev. J. C. Wharton; Pamphlet on early British Coins, by J. Evans, Esq.; Four Prints by J. Lee, Esq.; Rubbing of Brass from Constantine Church, Cornwall, by the Rev. J. Boodle; Analysis of Gothic Architecture, by the Rev. G. R. Ferris; Seven large Photographs, by J. James, Esq.; Rubbing of a Brass of Abbot Eastney, in Westminster Abbey, by Mr. J. C. May.

The thanks of the Society were voted to the donors.

The Rev. N. T. Garry read a paper on "Two original Licenses, one granted by George Abbot, Archbishop of Canterbury, to Richard Cartwright, to eat flesh; the other by Queen Elizabeth, to William Izard, to convey Tithes of Wheatley, &c., to Anthony Mullins, with translations and notes, by G. H. Sawtell, Esq."

The thanks of the Society were voted to Mr. Sawtell, who was also elected an Honorary Member.

The Rev. C. Lowndes read a paper, by G. R. Corner, Esq., illustrative of "Four Illuminations of the Courts of Westminster, in the possession of W. Selby Lowndes, Esq., of Whaddon Hall," These remarkable Illuminations, which were exhibited, are fixed to the date of 1454 from the circumstance that the Chief Justice is represented as a layman, and the only layman who held that office, at the period indicated was Richard Neville, Earl of Salisbury.

A discussion took place on the subject of the party-coloured dresses in the Illuminations. A letter from Vice-Admiral Smyth mentioned that at an execution which he witnessed in Sicily, in 1815, the executioners wore such dresses; and G. Pigott, Esq., mentioned that he had himself witnessed the same thing. Dr. Lee said that he considered that originally these dresses were tokens of honour, and produced two splendid dresses which he had brought, one from Damascus, and the other from Beyrout, worn by the Sheiks.

A vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Corner, and also to Mr. Selby Lowndes, for the loan of the Illuminations.

Archdeacon Bickersteth gave "A brief historical sketch of the Town of Aylesbury." The Rev. A. Isham read a paper on "The Stone Coffins recently found in Weston Turville Church."

The Rev. G. R. Ferris read a paper on "Colour, how far admissible in Architecture?"

The Rev. H. Roundell gave a brief account of some Roman remains recently found at Tingewick, which were exhibited.

The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the Archdeacon.

### THE ANNUAL MEETING

of the Bucks Archæological and Architectural Association, was held on Thursday, Oct. 10, at Amersham, it being the wish of the Committee to extend the interest felt in their operations by holding their Meetings at the principal towns in the county in rotation. The weather being fine—a matter of no small importance to amateur antiquaries—the proceedings appeared to excite considerable interest among the ladies of the neighbourhood, and the names of the Local Committee afforded a sufficient guarantee that every effort would be made to afford the Society a hearty reception.

The proceedings commenced with an excursion to the Old Manor House, Chenies, now the residence of F. Rickards, Esq. The party, consisting of about twelve, were hospitably welcomed by the owner, and proceeded to inspect the Mansion. Of the quadrangle, of which it originally consisted, only one side now remains; the west side is in ruins, and of the north the foundations only can now be discerned. The excursionists were hospitably entertained at lunch at the residence of the Rev. Lord Wriothesley Russell. His Lordship was from home, but his son supplied his place with the greatest courtesy. The party paid a short visit to Chenies Church, and then returned to Amersham, where the more formal business of the day commenced.

A museum had been formed, and was exhibited in the Town Hall, comprising a great number of interesting objects. Among the articles exhibited, was a valuable collection of ancient deeds, selected by the Rev. W. Drake, from the family archives, at Shardeloes. These included the great seal of Henry VI., (affixed to a pardon of the outlawry of Sir James Stradling), and the signets of Queen Elizabeth, of Charles I., and of William and Mary, and a very perfect great seal of Henry VIII., affixed to a grant of land, the heading of which is remarkably well executed in pen and ink. On a deed of Charles II., is an excellent mezzotint portrait of Charles I., which must have been executed within a year or two of the invention of the art by Prince Rupert. There was also a bull of Pope Alexander III., referring to some lands granted to the Church in Lincolnshire, and a grant of arms to William Smythe, A.D. 1108. There was also a fine collection of gold and other coins, a large silver box with a Dutch inscription, a large drawing of the old house at Shardeloes, and a curious lock from Little Shardeloes exhibited by Mrs. John Drake. Also a splendid collection of stuffed birds, all shot within the county, exhibited by the Rev. Bryant Burgess; three fine helmets, exhibited by Lord Wriothesley Russell, one, a baron's, supposed to have

belonged to the first Earl of Bedford, the other two being knights' helmets; several pieces of ancient armour; an old Chinese compass; a photographic copy of a portion of Domesday Book, relating to the County of Cornwall, executed by the new process invented by Sir H. James. Some curious old missals exhibited by the Rev. W. E. Partridge; four inventory rolls, shewn by Dr. Lee, relating to property of members of the Lee and Hampden families; Roman remains from Tingewick, Kingsey, Terrick, and from Plaxtol, Kent; a very perfect Roman jar, found on Wycombe Heath; Roman remains from Latimer and Weston Turville; a model, in chalk, of the font in Clifton Reynes Church; oak carving of the Nativity; a curious M.S. containing the judges' original notes on the celebrated Ship-money Trial; specimens of a new and beautiful method of lithographing Brass Rubbings, by Mr. Williams, &c. &c.

The meeting was held in the Town Hall at three o'clock, and was well attended.

The Bishop of Oxford, who was loudly cheered on taking the chair said, I have been requested to open the proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the Archæological Society. First, there is some business to be transacted, certain Officers, and, we hope, some Members, to be elected, and certain Rules which even among us, lovers of antiquity, require to be altered. I regret that I had not the advantage of joining the excursion of this morning, because this naturally tends to raise the mind of every one who joins it to the proper archæological level. That has not been my good fortune to day, so that you will expect but few words from me in opening this Meeting. But the general subject of archæology, the connexion of the past with the present, must have a deep interest to every thinking man. Just in proportion as society is civilized, in proportion as man is educated, he learns to live not only in the present, with which his senses are conversant, but with the past and the future, which he deals with in memory or in anticipation. There is no greater mark of the civilization of a man, or of a Society than this. The animal lives solely for the present. Probably he has no recollection of the past, and anything which may seem to be such is only a dim and uncertain approximation to memory. I mean to say that no animal ever thinks. "I think thus under such and such circumstances, and all cows, or hares, or dogs, under similar circumstances, will think the same, and therefore my progenitorial horse or dog thought thus and thus." We feel sure they are bounded by the present. And as man approximates to the brute he loses the faculties of memory and anticipation; as he rises above the brute level, he grows in these faculties. If we follow back any race to its earliest barbarism, we find absolutely no record of what went before—man had gone down to the brute level. This barbarism indeed can hardly support itself long, for every race of thorough barbarians has been a dwindling race, shewing that the moral, the spiritual, the intellectual powers are the salt of man, that without these comes corruption and decay. But in proportion as a people has emerged out of barbarism, and something like civilization is developed, here comes a looking back for something like a history until you come

at last, as it were to the black edge of a forest, where all is dark and you can see nothing beyond. Now there are people who look through their wondering glasses and tell you there is nothing in this old inscription or that rusty record, and say what is the worth of all this? and who turn up their noses in simpering scorn. Now I ask, what does this mean? It means "I am simply a savage, living solely in the present, perfectly unable to understand the past. Give me a little snuff—a little sugar-candy, that will tickle the palate—I can understand *that*." I think we, on our part, may comfort ourselves with a little Pecksniffian contempt, and reflect that it is we who stand on the pedestal, and may claim some superiority above those who flatter themselves on their superiority over us. Now in this lies the wisdom and the greatness of antiquarian research. Of course these researches may be pursued in a *dilettante* and frivolous spirit. A man may collect antiquarian objects merely because they are rare or odd, just as a man may follow natural history, collecting specimens only because they are queer and strange. It would be just as well to present such a man with a newly made Birmingham beast, or a new Birmingham coin, properly rusted over. But a true antiquary, such as every one of you my dear friends, is, cares for such things for this reason, that they are an indication of what the life of a past time was; he is enabled to see what the struggles of humanity were in that old time, and compare them with the struggles of the present time. He learns that procession and not stagnation is God's law for the race; he learns how we lose truths, unless we are very vigilant, which our fathers had, and how, instead of looking back with contempt on those before us, we should look to them with reverence as the developers of mighty truths, as our predecessors in the march of civilization, who have handed down to us that which we shall never keep unless we honour alike those who gave it to us and the gift they have transmitted to us, and which we would fain keep, looking forward to those who are to succeed us. We are to look upon them as the holders of a torch which burnt brightly for the little season that they had it, which they have handed to us, to hold, not as if we ourselves had kindled it, but remembering that it has come to us to be kept alive, and by us transmitted to our successors. That, I am sure, is the spirit in which every one of us desires to enter on our work, and I will, therefore, without any further remarks, invite you to proceed with the business of the day.—[*Extracted from the "Bucks Advertiser and Aylesbury News," October 12th, 1861.*]

The Rev. C. Lowndes read the Treasurer's Account, which shewed a balance of £5 11s. against the Society.

Mr. Lowndes also gave notice of a proposal to raise the subscription from 5s. to 6s. annually, or £1 5s. for five years.

The whole of the officers and committee were re-elected, and the following gentlemen, having been duly proposed and seconded in committee, were elected members of the Society:—Rev. H. H. Crewe, Drayton Beauchamp; Mr. J. Clarke, Haddenham; J. D. Francis, Esq.,

Chesham; Mr. G. De Fraine, jun., Aylesbury; Rev. W. Drake, Great Grimsby, Yorkshire; W. Beauchamp, Esq., Monks Risborough; F. Charaley, Esq., Great Missenden; W. Penn, Esq., Stone; George Simon Harcourt, Esq., 71, St. George's Square, Pimlico, London, S. W.; W. Lowndes, jun., Esq., Chesham; J. Marshall, Esq., Amersham; Rev. F. Pember, Coleshill, Amersham; T. Parker, Esq., White House, Chenies; T. Gurney, Esq., Newbury, Berks; Mr. J. Verney, Aylesbury; Mr. W. H. Baker, Aylesbury; Mr. T. Horwood, Aylesbury; J. Burnham Safford, Esq., Long Croft, Tring; Honourable William G. Cavendish, Latimer; Rev. Edward Ryley, Sarratt, Herts; G. Isaacson, Esq., Amersham; Mr. Goodman, Chalfont St. Giles; Rev. E. J. Luce, Amersham; Rev. A. C. Richings, Hawridge.

The Rev. W. Drake then pointed out some of the objects exhibited, especially those connected with Shardeloes.

The Rev. B. Burges then read a paper by W. H. H. Kelke, Esq., on Amersham; which will be published in the Records of the Society.

The Rev. W. H. Kelke then read a paper on "The Sculptured Monuments of the County;" which will also be printed in the forthcoming number of the Records.

The Rev. C. Lowndes read a letter from Vice-Admiral Smyth, on a double-faced brass in Stone Church, for which the thanks, of the Society were tendered to the Admiral.

There was another paper to be read, but on account of the lateness of the hour it was postponed.

The Hon. W. G. Cavendish, M. P., proposed and W. Lowndes, Esq., seconded a vote of thanks to the Bishop, which having been duly acknowledged, the meeting broke up.

#### A GENERAL MEETING.

Was held the following day, Oct. 11th, at Seven o'clock in the evening under the Presidency of the Rev. T. Evetts, Rural Dean. The notice given at the Annual Meeting relating to the increase of the annual Subscription, was considered and carried unanimously.

The Rev. C. Lowndes read a paper on Chesham.

Mr. Goodman read a paper on Chalfont St. Giles.

A letter from the Rev. H. Roundell giving an account of the Roman Antiquities discovered at Tingewick, was read by the Rev. G. Kingdon.

The Rev. C. Lowndes read "some notes, by G. H. Sawtell, Esq., on four Inventory Rolls, exhibited by J. Lee, Esq.," the reading of which was postponed the day previous on account of the lateness of the hour.

A vote of thanks was given to the Chairman, which having been duly acknowledged, the meeting broke up.

# ARCHITECTURAL AND ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY FOR THE COUNTY OF BUCKINGHAM.

## ABSTRACT OF ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31<sup>st</sup>, 1860.

### Receipts.

	£	s.	d.
Subscriptions .....	54	5	0
Sale of "Records" .....	2	11	0
Receipts at the Annual Meeting at Newport .....	12	16	0
Balance due to the Treasurer .....	5	11	9½

### Payments.

	£	s.	d.
Balance left last Year .....	0	4	10½
Mr. Pickburn's balance for 1859 .....	10	5	4
Messrs. Day & Son .....	4	10	3
Messrs. Cowell, for Anastatic Prints .....	2	16	10
Messrs. Whymper, for Wood-cut .....	4	12	0
Mr. Ivatts, for use of Room .....	12	12	0
Books .....	1	13	6
"Records" re-purchased .....	0	10	0
Postage Stamps for issuing Circulars, the "Records," &c.; and Parcels .....	6	7	6
Mr. Pickburn, on account .....	13	15	0
Expenses at the Annual Meeting at Newport .....	18	17	6

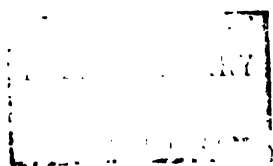
£75 3 9½

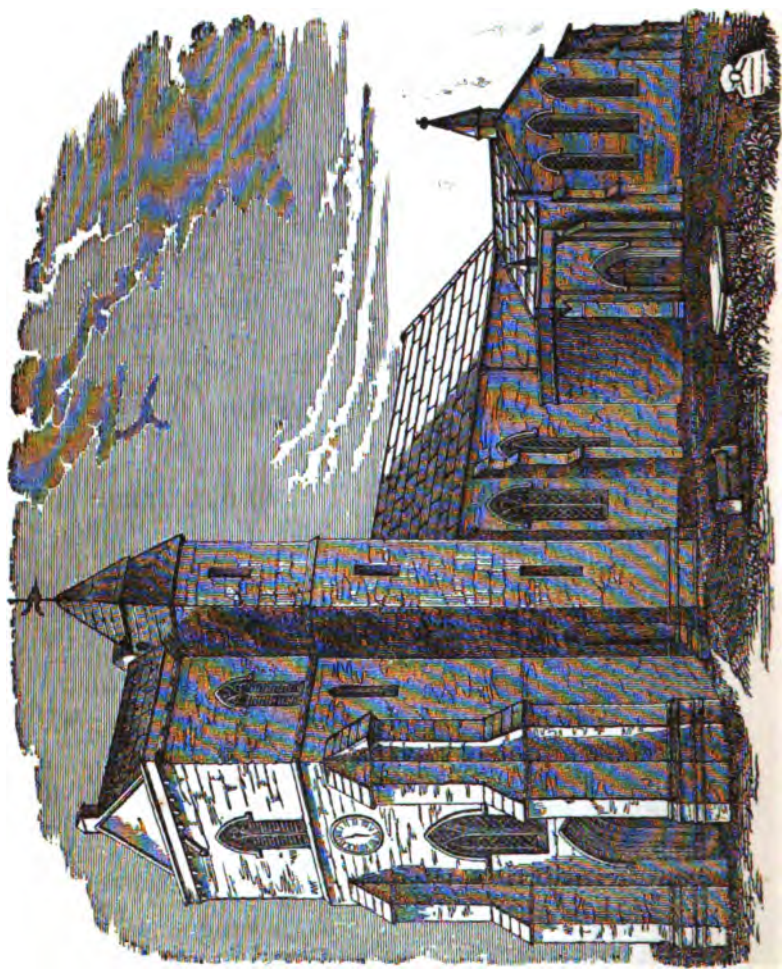
£75 3 9½

Examined, Audited, and compared with the Vouchers.

ARTHUR ISHAM, }  
Z. D. HUNT, } Auditors.

6th JULY, 1861.





**Stone Church.**

A WORD MORE ON THE "DOUBLE-FACED" BRASS IN  
STONE CHURCH, WITH A FEW PARTICULARS  
RESPECTING THAT EDIFICE, &c. IN A LETTER  
FROM VICE-ADMIRAL W. H. SMYTH.

*St. John's Lodge, 5—7—'61.*

MY DEAR SIR,

My last letter upon this subject has given rise to a question or two, to which answers may very readily be given. In the first place it was asked—and reasonably enough—how the lower line of the Gurney inscription could have been restored, seeing that only a few marks remained? Now, to clear it from the imputation of being mere guess-work, I will shew that the approximation to date is founded on the principle enunciated by my friend Mr. Williams.

It will be recollected by readers of the "Records," that I alluded to the aid which was afforded to research by the mannerism and conventional form of the monumental inscriptions of that era; and the further proceeding before us may be thus stated for general information:—Upon examining the numeral (XVIII) of the day, in the preceding line, it will be found that the V has a curved top which rises above that line. This is a key-stone, for such a top is seen among the remains of the line in the place where measurement—and other indications—shew the second figure of the date must have been, and consequently proving it a V. As the first numeral was undoubtedly M, the year sought for must be somewhere between 1500 and 1520, the date of the inscription on the other side, which, though a little coarser, bears internal evidence of being all but contemporary. If the remaining part had had another V in it, we must infer that the top would have been curled as in the cited XVIII, and consequently, rising above the line, a portion of it would have remained visible, as appears in the place of the second figure beforementioned: as however no such indication appears, it follows that the numeral V did not form

any part of the remaining portion of the date in question. Hence it may be pronounced that it could not have been V—VI—VII—VIII—XV—XVI—XVII—or XVIII: in which series IV is not included, because, in the inscriptions of that time, four was represented under the more archaic form IIII. We are thus limited to I—II—III—IIII—IX—X—XI—XII—XIII—and XIII. Now, when measuring the space where the V of MV must have been, and the place where the first letter of the word following the date (*on*) must have been, there is abundant room for the greatest number of these numeral letters. We may therefore, without scowering the shield too closely, or making any untoward hesitation, accept of 1514 as the true date of this portion of the Brass.

In my former communication to you, this inscription, and not the sculptures, was my only object in writing; but, from a cause which will presently appear, I might as well have said that there is a little group of six sons by the side of the effigies of Thomas, and there are three daughters represented behind Agnes. From the number and evident respectability of the Gurneys formerly located in this vicinity, I enquired of my old and esteemed friend Mr. Hudson Gurney—so long the popular Vice-President of the Society of Antiquaries—whether he was aware of their having been any connection between the Buckinghamshire and the Norfolk families of that ilk? Though now in his 86th year, I received an immediate and cheerful reply, in which, after a few general details, he thus proceeds—

There is the grant of the manor of Wendover by Stephen to Hugh de Gournai—and a *regnant* to the seventh Hugh Gournay 1180,—whose end was unfortunate. Going over from King John to Philip Augustus, he was attainted and confiscated in England: and the French Chronicle says of him—‘Hoc anno Hugo de Gurnay capite mulctatus est, ut planus et manifestus proditur.’

Of the Gurneys of Stone there are five descents given in the Echeats of Stone and Aylesbury, in the reign of Henry the 8th. In Cole’s Echeats, and in Daniel Gurney’s notes, I find—‘Joseph Gurney, a baker in Park-street, London, says his family are from Stone or Bishopstone, near Aylesbury, where they had been settled more than a century, (June, 1631)’—or rather from time immemorial. If I find more, I will send it to you by another post.

To Mr. Hudson Gurney’s account, I may as well add that a very curious charter among the archives of the Dutchy of Lancaster, is signed by Hug de Gurnai, as one of the

witnesses; and there is both internal and presumptive evidence that this same document was drawn up A.D. 1190, the commencement of the reign of Richard the First. Moreover, in the *Rotuli de Oblatis et Finibus* there are to be found, in the year 1384—1393—1395—1402—and 1462, fines on the messuages, lands, and rents of Stone and Bishopstone, which thereby confirmed the rights and established the position of the Gurneys. Among the early records preserved in the Evidence-room at Hartwell House, is a curious rent-roll dated on the 30th day of November, 1459, (*38th Hen. VI.*) in favour of D. Witts Gurney, de Bysshoppeton.

It is plain that the family of the Gurneys was pretty numerous in this vicinity, for the name constantly occurs in the records of marriages, baptisms, and deaths: and it still exists around, though not in the same consideration. In endeavouring to trace when such a decadence might have occurred, there is a sad hiatus of 350 years; that is, between the time above cited and that of Henry VIII., in whose reign the laudable Parish Records were instituted. Numerous documents may have been preserved by the Monks: but though monasteries were the safe-guards of religion and literature in the dark ages, they were also the strong-holds of superstitious bigotry and spiritual despotism, under which influence many of their manuscripts were garbled. I was therefore confined to the Parish Registers, the wading through which may not be deemed at all entertaining reading.\* But those who view them only as a dry and dull series of insignificant names and dates, are certainly not of that archaic taste which calls upon the grave to render up its still occupants, and re-animate them for the moment, thereby to throw a light upon circumstantial evidence—genealogical testimony which is still to be held in trust for future investigations—

They whisper truths in Reason's ear,  
Would human pride but stoop to hear.

The earliest mention of this family in the Parish Register, nor could it well be earlier in such a record, is Francis Gurney, 'sonne of Hen. Gournay the Younger,'

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\* Under the date *Novber 29th, 1763*, is the curt entry—"A woman, name unknown, Cook to the late Sr Thomas Lee." This uncouth record of the once most important personage in the household staff, may be imputed to her having been always addressed by the title of her calling.

who was christened on the 7th of October, 1538; and a "Margarett Gourney" was married in the following month. These entries are, of course, on the first leaf, for it was the year in which the practice was ordered; and there is inferential testimony that they were then a family 'well to do,' as there are inscriptions and an altar-tomb to some of them; although they are entered repeatedly afterwards—ladies as well as gentlemen—as being buried according to that unpopular act of Parliament (*30th Car. II*) which was passed and acted upon in 1678, in woollen grave-clothes only—which a payment would have evaded. Pope has recorded the agitation which the decree occasioned in the dying moments of a fair one—

'Odious! in woollen! 'twould a saint provoke!'  
Were the last words that poor Narcissa spoke.\*

The observance of this compulsory enactment was strictly enforced, under the plea of thereby lessening the importation of linen from abroad and increasing the consumption of wool: and all the Parish Registers which I have examined, bear ample proof of the carrying out of this law. Though no authentic notice has met my eye of the custom having been practiced after the year 1789, it was not formally repealed till 1814. While in full operation it was a most unpalatable regulation for submitting to: and as no corpse could be interred, nor any funeral ceremony be entered upon without the qualifying affidavit—which it was sometimes very difficult to procure—inconvenient delays often occurred, to the annoyance of domestic feeling. That all the provisions of the Act had been complied with, had then to be certified by the Minister; in default of which a fine of five pounds was to be levied on the goods and chattels of the deceased, or failing those, on the goods of the person in whose house the death occurred, or of any person concerned in the ensbroument of the defunct. The Registration then—with the Clergy-

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\* This was Mrs. Oldfield, the celebrated actress, who died in 1731. She however escaped the 'odious woollen;' and was buried in Westminster Abbey, in a Brussels lace head-dress, a holland shift with tucker, double lace ruffles, and new kid gloves, (*Gentleman's Magazine for March, 1731*). The fine was, of course, paid by somebody. It seems tyrannical to fulminate grave enactments for funeral habiliments. Near the communion-rails of Chetwode Church, in this county, some coffins—apparently of ecclesiastics—were opened, the bodies in which were found to be wrapped in leather.

man's *ita esse test.*—was placed under the occasional inspection of the local magistrates, who signed the entries to attest their having duly examined the details. There is ample evidence before us, that these conditions were strictly observed: and to a record of the Gurneys in 1693, I observed three signatures of so remarkable a tenour, that I took a tracing of them thus:—

April 2<sup>nd</sup> 1713 Sir T. Gos  
 Tho. Lee  
 Dr. Beke  
 Simon Mayne

Here we have the sign-manuals of Sir Thomas Lee, of Hartwell, son of the friend of Hampden and Ingoldsby; of Colonel Richard Beke, the favourite of Cromwell, and husband of Sir Thomas's third daughter; and of Simon Mayne, whose autograph—save in the *i* for *y*—singularly resembles that of his father the regicide, as shown on the death-warrant of Charles the First. He was permitted to enjoy the lands in Dinton though they had escheated to the Crown. Beke, it will be recollected, was knighted by Oliver, though on the restoration of royalty he thought it prudent to drop his title, in order to facilitate his application for special indemnity under the great seal.\* The pardon thus obtained is in Dr. Lee's possession: in its general provisions it follows not only the public act of Indemnity and Oblivion, but also enters into several particulars not provided for by the statute 12 Car. II; and it is

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\* As the only representative of the ancient Beke family, I cannot but cite my friend Dr. Beke, the spirited and persevering Abyssinian Traveller; one who, from his Nilotic investigations, may yet force the mighty and mysterious river to yield up its source. Indeed appearances indicate that one of the great problems of all ages, the *Caput Nili*, is on the very point of being settled. There are epitaphial inscriptions to the Bekes both in Haddenham and Dinton Churches, but as those given by Lipscombe are not quite accurate, Dr. Lee had rubbings made from them.

drawn up with such point and precision as, apparently, to meet every possible case. An instance will shew this:—

"*Know ye, therefore, that we of our special grace & of our certain knowledge & mere motion, have pardoned, remitted, & released, & by these patents do pardon, remit, & release to Richard Beke, of Haddenham, in our county of Buckingham, Esquire, or by whatsoever name or surname, or addition of name or surname, office, or place the same Richard Beke be deemed, called, or named, or lately was deemed, called, or named, all & all manner of treasons, crimes of lese majesty, levyings of war, rebellions, & insurrections & conspiracies, & misprisions, of the same treasons, crimes of lese majesty, levyings of war, rebellions and insurrections, & all & singular murders, and killings, & slayings of men per insidias (by lying in waite), by assault or of malice aforethought, homicides, felonies, robberies, burnings of houses, depredations piratical, offences, crimes, contempts, misdemeanours & transgressions, counselled, commanded, attempted, done, perpetrated, or committed by the aforesaid Richard Beke before the 10th day of June last past,*" &c. &c.

Three years after the date of these signatures, Sir Thomas Lee and Simon Mayne, had the severe contested election for Aylesbury, upon which the House of Commons resolved that persons deriving benefit from Bedford's Charity in that town, are thereby disabled from voting : which right was to be confined to householders not receiving alms.

This decision was equally unexpected and annoying to the vested birth-right men, since they had been led to regard the Bedford bounty as a largess independent of all other charitable institutions of the town; and much dissatisfaction was evinced on thus reducing a number of freemen—pot-wallopers in electioneering parlance—to the condition of mere paupers. But before the Reform Bill was passed, the borough had long *enjoyed* an unenviable notoriety for stratagems not altogether right-worshipful in constitutional engagements; and corrupt practises in parliamentary candidates were openly and shamelessly carried on by all parties. Even so late as 1802—according to living testimony—the town-crier publicly announced the Inn where voters were to apply for their fees of three guineas each from the agent; but some of the more wily purity-men received a larger bonus, besides heavy guttling, from the election-money. To those who are not conversant with the local affairs of this part of the County, it may be necessary to explain what Bedford's Charity means, in order to prevent any collision with the admirable benefac-

tion at Bedford.\* A gentleman of Aylesbury, John Bedford, by his will dated on the 12th of July, 1493 (9 *Henry VII*), bequethed a real estate for the perpetual use of the Parish, in amending its highways and relieving the poor inhabitants. The bequest then consisted of a certain quantity of land and messuages, of the annual rental of about £30. It now consists of eleven dwelling-houses, and nearly 106 acres of land in and near the town, with £89 in the funds—the present income being about £600 per annum.

Another question which has been gravely asked, is to the effect of *wondering* how it was first known, that this Gurney brass was 'two-faced'? Now although pretty well versed in its whole story, I thought it the most advisable step to have it recorded in the *ipsissima verba* of the actual discoverer—the Rev. J. B. Reade, the former Vicar of Stone, who brought its duplicity to light. On applying to this gentleman upon that and other points under consideration, he promptly returned the following details from Ellesborough Rectory:—

I will gladly devote a portion of my solitude here to your service, acknowledging that you have claims upon me; but I must first thank you for your 'excellent discourse'—to use the stereotyped form of approval—on the double-faced brass in the old Church.

You apply the lignum so sharply to robbers of Churches, that I think such offenders would rather have a monument than an Admiral standing over them. However, with respect to the Stone brass, there is clearly no case of *Tharpe v. Gorney* for the decision of your court of "Records" (*Acts XIX. 37.*) The worker in brass committed no robbery, and Tharpe was never a much-trodden-upon individual, in Stone Church at least, as Gorney is proved to have been by the trituration of his brass. In fact the fresh and therefore somewhat coarser character of the Tharpe inscription, satisfies me that his brass was never laid down: the edges of the letters are perfectly sharp, and their depth of cutting has not suffered from the feet of Church-going people.

The double reading was discovered in 1844, when we restored the Church. It was then necessary to remove all the tomb-stones on the floor of the edifice; and lest the organ of acquisitiveness should be unduly excited in any *wandering Antiquary*, if we may describe a pilferer

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\* This most useful and liberal endowment is owing to Sir William Harpur and Dame Alice his wife, who, in 1556, left 13 acres of land—then on the skirts, but now in the heart of London—to Bedford, the knight's native town. It quickly improved in value, and in 1668, the annual rental was £99; but in 1836, when I was a Trustee of its management, it amounted to the magnificent sum of £13,500 per annum! And Bedford possesses lots of other Charities.

so mildly, I took all their brasses to the Vicarage and had them ultimately carefully replaced. A few of the best encaustic tiles, having figures of swan, &c., remained in the Church—or rather ought to have remained—but some *wandering Antiquary* got hold of them. Other memorials of the past perished also. A new chancel, as you are aware, was erected; but the time-honoured features of the old chancel—too elaborate for the naked architecture of the modern builder—were ruthlessly destroyed. To my inquiry for the fine old sedilia, foliated canopies and columns, &c., the reply was ‘Oh Sir, the Architect has ordered them to be brayed into sand!’ I held my tongue for very shame and sorrow. No wonder that your holy places are disfigured by railway-roofing!

The discovery of the second inscription on the Gurney brass led our friend Thorpe, of Stone, to claim the grave as family property. It was therefore opened for the purpose of identification from coffins or otherwise, and, curiously enough, we found exactly as many pairs of thigh bones as there are figures of the Gurneys—namely, the old people, six sons, and three daughters. No other part of the bodies remained, with the exception of a small portion of one of the vertebæ; neither was there a trace of coffins or wood. All had perished. A striking comment on the words *pulvis et umbra*.

We also ascertained by thus opening the ground that Lipscomb is wrong—you will say *as usual*—when he asserts that the Church is built “on an artificial mount, probably an ancient barrow.” For it is erected, beyond all question, on one of the natural sand-hills which are so common in the parish, and the lines of stratification in the sand below the grave, and on its sides, proved beyond mistake the character of the formation. No barrow of any kind had anything to do with it.

We get, however, by Lipscomb out of Kennet, the accurate date of the consecration of the Church, viz. 1st June, 1273, (2. *Edward I.*): and it may amuse you to learn, on an authority you will readily admit, that the chancel then consecrated had but just been built—and not very well built either. At the time of our restoration of the Church, this dilapidated chancel found a restorer in the lay-impropriator, Dr. Lee. I happened to be present when a portion of the wall at the south-east angle was taken down, and with my own hand I took from between two of the largest stones a silver penny of Edward the First; thus obtaining satisfactory proof that the chancel was built in the reign which had not long commenced.—The weakness of the structure was found to arise from the fact of the south wall having *no foundation*! The lowest stones—and those of a *crumbling* kind—were placed only just below the surface: and the only wonder is, that it had the power of self-support at all, through upwards of 500 years.

As the chancel in question was not exactly square with the Church, I proposed that the new south wall should stand about 4 or 5 feet more northward, in order that the central lines of the Church and chancel might coincide. On preparing the ground for this object, the workmen found a deep and well-laid foundation of a former wall exactly similar in character to the foundation of the north wall of the chancel. There was no doubt in our minds as to this foundation having *done duty* in supporting the first chancel of the ancient Church, and being so, the continuity of the central line from east to west was, in the first instance, preserved. That continuity is restored with good effect in the present—or third—chancel, which does in fact stand upon the first foundations; for time would have been thrown away in an attempt to destroy the skilled labour of the close of the eleventh century. As A.D. 1150 is the date of the earliest historical notice of the Church, there can be no doubt that the south porch and the massive pillars of the semi-circular arches

are, at least, as early as 1100. Why a new chancel should have been built so soon as 1273 is a question of curious speculation. As the tooth of time could scarcely reach maturity in a couple of centuries, we must look for wanton destruction, accident, or design. The priests may perhaps have craved more room, with suitable and comfortable sedilia. At all events a second chancel was then erected, and not improbably the transepts and tower also: and the formal consecration of the Church, as *St. John the Baptist's*, then took place.

Such is my story, and remember it is virtually at your bidding that I write, and thus record for your amusement a few facts to which you will readily assign their archaeological value: but as connected with some of the happiest years of my life, it is to me very cheering to be called upon to refer to them. The old Parish and the old Church are not to be forgotten places. 'Many a time and oft' I may have given most of these particulars to you *vis à voce*; but I now take a hint from your valuable paper and—transfer them—if they are worth it—to the safer keeping of the *littera scripta*.

With this lucid explanation, our remarks on the Gurney Brass may be concluded: and I append a view, or rather as an antiquated landskip-monger would have had it—a south-west prospect of the Church. It will be seen that Mr. Reade's conjecture that the 'two faces' were not the result of fraud, or involved in sacrilege, coincides with my own expressed opinion. Indeed such numbers of mere double-faced and true palimpsest brasses have turned up of late, that, keeping all the inducements in view, I cannot but think if both sides could be examined, that a very large portion of these memorials would be proved to have been used twice. This curious custom might have originated in a singular view of economy; and cannot be put in parity with deeds, conveyances, or other manuscript writings—wherein both the scarcity and dear-ness of the proper materials may account for the practice. And here I take leave to present the Society with a copy of the new application of lithography to Rubbings, so ably carried into execution by Mr. Williams. The following brief notice will give all that I know about it; and however little that may prove to be, it can in no way interfere with the value of the document.

Away in the west of England, and not far from the fair town of Helston, in Cornwall, there is a small and rather obscure village named CONSTANTINE in all our maps and directories; though as it is vernacularly enunciated *Constann-tinn*, I could not but suspect that the classic orthography has led us adrift from the real meaning of the name; which, as mining is still a principal occupation

there, seemed more in allusion to stanneries and tin, than to the Roman appellation. Being fully aware of the peril of jumbling facts and fancies together, I submitted my conjecture to Sir Richard Vyvyan, of Trelowarren, whom I well knew to be the highest Cornish reference. The returning post brought me the following reply:—

The Church of Constantine is a fine old building in the neighbouring granitic region of this district. It has always been supposed to have derived its name from Constantine the son of Cador, Duke of Cornwall, and cousin to King Arthur by his alliance in marriage; who succeeded Arthur by his will as King of Britain in 542 A.D. (*Speed, page 273.*) Thus far as regards the existence of the man, who is moreover said to have reigned three years, to have been killed in battle by Aurelius Conanus his successor, and to have been buried at Stonehenge.

It is remarkable that Speed, following older writers, names *Stonehenge* as the place of sepulture of those earliest *Anti-Saxon* Kings, who were constantly at war with the invaders. He names thirteen such Kings from Vortigern to Cadwallader—from 400 and odd to 685 A.D., say 250 years: Constantine was the sixth of this dynasty, the predecessor of an equally violent tyrant.

I am surprised that modern antiquarians have not made more of the tradition about Stonehenge, as the sacred place of Britain, long after the arrival of Hengist and Horsa.

My excellent friend having thus demolished the baseless vision which I had called up, we will proceed with the story which brought the inquiry forward.

In the old Church of this old village is a funereal brass, the obverse, or visible part of which had immemorially commemorated a worthy gentleman and his wife, small in size, but standing beneath canopies, in Elizabethan habiliments. From a shield of arms between them, it may be inferred that he was one of the Gervis family; there exists however no inscription in proof, but on the whole there is reason to think he died *circa* 1570. Now it came to pass that Constantine Church lately needed repairs, in consequence of which the said memorial was taken down from the place it had occupied for nearly 300 years; when, to the surprise of the spectators, it was found that the reverse bore the effigies of some person of note, and that it was a portion of a Flemish brass of superior workmanship, in exceedingly sharp preservation. From particulars in the boldly incised armour, and other indications, the date of this specimen is evidently towards the latter part of the XIVth century—say between 1360 and 1380: but there is nothing to throw any light whatever on the name of the individual. Yet, though all written trace appears beyond reach, it is just possible that the arms on the surcoat might

afford a clue. And here I cannot do better than quote Mr. William's own account of the steps which he took to ensure the discovery, and promote a general knowledge of so interesting an archaeological fact: the letter which I received is dated 26th February, 1861—

"This beautiful brass was exhibited at the first meeting of the Society of Antiquaries this session, at Somerset House, by Mr. J. G. Waller, and commanded very great attention. I obtained the permission of that gentleman to take a copy. As the reverse appeared to be of considerable interest, and Mr. Waller thought that the brass was about to be replaced in its original situation, in which case the obverse only could be visible, and as I could hardly expect to get a better example, I considered it a good opportunity to apply to it my process of rubbing, so modified as to enable me to produce a lithographic copy. The result is the lithograph in question, which I now have the pleasure of sending for your kind acceptance.

"I have had this process in view for many years, my first specimen of a lithographic copy of an object dating in December, 1834. The method appears to excite a great deal of attention; and being very easy, and comparatively speaking not very expensive, I quite hope to see it adopted in cases of particular interest, as thus, with the labour of one rubbing only, authentic copies may be multiplied to any extent."

From what I have since heard, I believe that the Constantine Brass has actually been restored to its place over the family commemorated on the obverse side, and there secured; so that the subject of Mr. Williams's excellent lithograph is once more concealed, probably for ages. In the great concern which this incident excited among antiquaries, Mr. Albert Way has suggested, in a letter to me, that valuable palimpsests which accident or other cause may bring to light, instead of being again fastened down should be supported by a hinge-apparatus, so that either side of the sculptures might be readily open to examination. The proposal is a good one, and it is to be hoped that he will agitate the point, it being of deep archaeological importance to times past, present, and future.

To the very natural inquiry as to how so fine a mortuary fragment—evidently in honour of some great man—should ever have got into so distant a region as Cornwall, it may be answered that, probably, it is a relic of the reckless spoliation of Churches which took place in the Netherlands, a few years previous to the later date above given. In that calamitous time, the infuriated mob of fanatical reformers broke into the various sacred fanes, mutilating and destroying everything around them, and tearing up the brasses that bespoke the merits and services of the individuals buried there. The brasses thus wantonly

desecrated by iconoclastic plunderers were sure of a ready sale, from the known superiority of the then manufacture of metal in the Low Countries—called latten, brass, or cullen (*Cologne*) plate: the dealers in such articles took them, of course, to the best markets. Hence we may account for the presence in England, of the curious specimen under our consideration.

Of this enough: but in closing such a lucubration it is impossible to view the sacrilegious callousness, and dishonest perversion, with which the sacred memorials of one generation have been desecrated to glorify a squad of unknown interlopers of another, without recollecting the beautiful lines in Pope's pathetic elegy on an Unfortunate Lady—

So peaceful rests, without a stone, or name,  
What once had beauty, titles, wealth, and fame.  
How lov'd, how honour'd once, avails thee not,  
To whom related, or by whom begot;  
A heap of dust alone remains of thee,  
'TIS ALL THOU ART—AND ALL THE PROUD SHALL BE!

I beg to subscribe myself, &c.,

W. H. SMYTH.

*The Rev. Charles Lowndes, F. R. A. S., &c.*

#### THE LAST GIBBET.

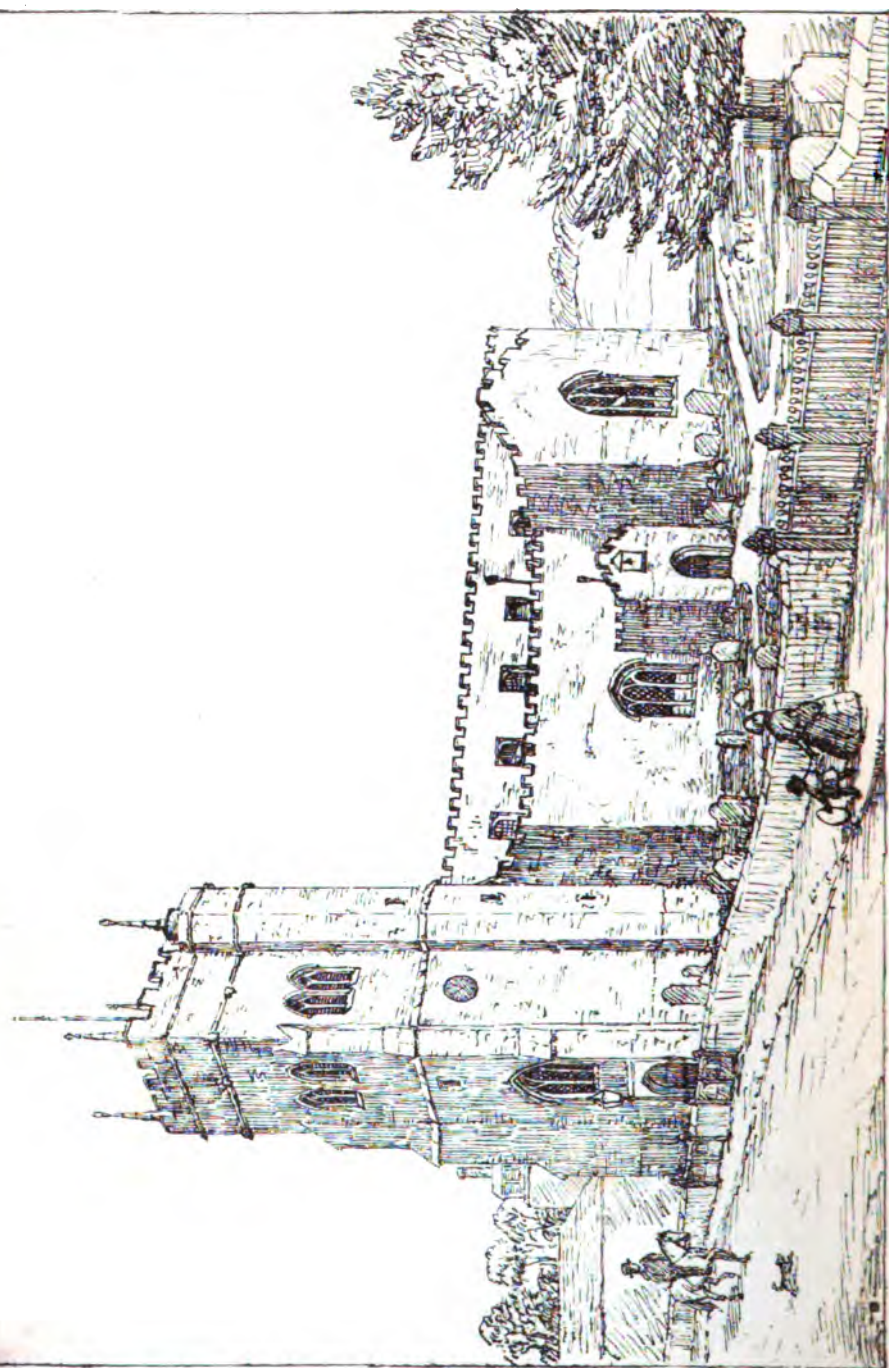
Since the account of the Gibbet was printed (in Vol. 2, p. 157), I have been enabled to fix the date of its erection and final removal; the former by an extract from the Register in St. Mary's Church, Aylesbury:—

"July 23, 1773.—Edward Corbet was hung in chains at Bierton for the murder of Farmer Holt."

The last remains of the Gibbet, which had been used as a gate-post for the rick-yard belonging to Mr. Dickins of Bierton, was taken down on August 15th, 1860. The post was about six feet long, and had been cut from the upper part of the Gibbet, and was about six inches square; in it were two mortice holes, the one eighteen inches below the other; there appear marks of the rubbing of the chains. Mr. Watts, chair-maker, of Bierton, bought the piece with a view to work it up into various fancy articles.

C. LAMBORN.





AMERSHAM CHURCH.

## AMERSHAM.

BY W. H. HASTINGS KELKE, B. A.

Of Amersham we have no certain record prior to the Norman Conquest, though Browne Willis calls it a "Saxon town," while local traditions point to conflicts with the Danes in its neighbourhood. At the time of the Domesday Survey, it comprised no less than six Manors, the chief of which previously belonging to Edith, Queen of Edward the Confessor, was then held by Geoffrey de Mandeville, who also held half a hide of land in Amersham, (or as it was then called Elmodesham,) belonging to the Manor of Ferneham (Farnham Royal,) of which, in the words of the Survey: "He disseised Bertram de Verdun, whilst he was abroad in the King's service."

Another Manor, formerly belonging to Alwin, a vassal of Queen Edith's, was held by Roger, under Odo, the powerful Bishop of Bayeux. A third by Alman, of the Earl of Moreton. A fourth by Vluiet, of Hugh de Bolebec. A fifth was held by Turstin Mantel, elsewhere called Turstin the son of Rolf, a name which seems to indicate Danish origin, and which still remains in Mantle Green Farm, as well as in Great and Little Mantles, at Little Missenden, in which parish Turstin had possessions. Lastly, one was held by Gozelin Brito. Of these, Geoffrey de Mandeville's Manor amounted to seven hides and a half, the rest to only half a hide each, all of them nevertheless being Manors.

Since the whole  $10\frac{1}{2}$  hides, allowing the rather wide margin of 120 or 150 acres to a hide, would only amount to at most 1,575 acres, while the present area of the parish is estimated at about 8,000 acres, it follows that either little more than one-eighth of the parish could then have been under cultivation, unless the boundaries of the parish have since been greatly extended, or (which seems very possible) that the hidage was founded on the value of the land, and not on the actual number of acres. It

will presently appear that little more than two hundred years after this period, two-thirds of the parish were in cultivation; the latter supposition therefore seems the more probable.

Besides the cultivated ground was woodland sufficient for keeping 470 hogs; and three mills, one of which was of the yearly value of five, and another of four shillings. The chief of these landholders, Geoffrey de Mandeville (or Magnâ Villâ), was one of the most valiant of William's Norman followers, and was rewarded with large grants of land, lying for the most part in Essex, where was his principal seat of Walden. He was constable of the Tower of London, and founded a Benedictine Monastery at Hurley, in Berkshire. He was twice married, his wives names being respectively Athelaise and Leceline; by the former of whom he had a son William, who married Margaret, daughter of Eudo Dapifer (or Steward), to William the Conqueror. Their son Geoffrey married Roasia or Rohesia, daughter of Alberic de Vere, Earl of Oxford, and was created Earl of Essex, a title long held by his descendants. Espousing the cause of the Empress Maud, he received numerous privileges from her,—his title and estates were confirmed with the Sherifalty of London, Middlesex, and Hertfordshire, to which was added the custody of the Tower of London.

Having excited the hostility of King Stephen, he was, in 1141, seized while in attendance on him, at St. Albans, and did not regain his liberty until he had surrendered the Tower of London, and his own castles at Walden and Plessey. Geoffrey, now having divorced his sister Beatrice from her husband Hugh Talbot, and married her to William de Say, made in conjunction with the latter, inroads upon the lands of King Stephen, and of various ecclesiastics and other supporters of the Sovereign, and among other enormities despoiled the Abbey of Ramsey, in Huntingdonshire, driving out the Monks, and selling the ornaments of the Church. Henry of Huntingdon, after relating this act of sacrilege, adds, "He was, indeed, a man of great determination, but resolute in ungodliness, diligent in worldly affairs, but negligent in spiritual." The pious chronicler considers his death, which occurred soon after, as a judgment for this profanation of the Abbey. "Earl Godfrey (or Geoffrey) was singled out

among his followers, and shot with an arrow by a common foot soldier. He made light of the wound, but died of it in a few days, under excommunication. See here the just judgment of God, memorable through all ages! While that Abbey was converted into a fortress, blood exuded from the walls of the Church and the Cloister adjoining, witnessing the divine indignation, and prognosticating the destruction of the impious. This was seen by many persons, and I observed it with my own eyes." Camden quotes from the Register of the Abbey of Walden, founded by Geoffrey, and by him endowed with nineteen Churches, among which was Amersham, that "he was mortally wounded in the head at a small town called Burwell, and when he was at the point to die, and drawing his last breath, some Templars interposed, who covered him with the habit of their order, marking him with a red cross, and afterwards took away his body to their Orchard at the Old Temple, in London, where they suspended it in a leaden coffin from a tree." This, it appears, they did, as it was not lawful to grant him Christian burial until the sentence of excommunication had been annulled, which was at length effected, principally by the intercession of the Monks of Walden, who, in consideration of his boon of nineteen Churches, might well look with a more lenient eye on the delinquencies of the deceased than their injured brethren of Ramsey.

On Geoffrey's death, the date of which is somewhat uncertain, but appears to have been anno 1141, he was succeeded by his three sons in turn, who all dying without issue, the estates devolved to Geoffrey Fitz Pier, in right of his wife, Beatrix, who was grand-daughter of Geoffrey de Mandevill's sister, Beatrix, wife of William de Say. This Fitz Pier, on payment of 7,000 marks, or about £4,500, an immense sum at that time, obtained the earldom of Essex, taking the name of Mandeville, and enjoying the estates holden by his ancestors, among which was Amersham. The Manor subsequently formed part of the dower of Christina, wife of William de Mandeville, son of the above, who died 1228, and finally by the marriage of Maud, sister and heiress of William, to Humphrey de Bohun, it passed into that family. This Humphrey was Earl of Hereford, and High Constable of

England, and in 1303, the representative of his line was created Earl of Essex. In 1296, on the death of Richard Lord Fitz John, the Manor, with the exception of £34 and 4d. rent, was assigned to Robert de Clifford. In 1335, Humphrey de Bohun died, seised of the Manor of Amersham.

In 1376, the King committed to Philip de la Vache the custody of Amersham and Buckland, late belonging to Edward, Lord le Despencer, deceased, to hold the same until his attainment of his legal age. In 1400, Lord le Despencer, Earl of Gloucester, was attainted for plotting to restore Richard II. to the throne, and died seised of Amersham.

The above-mentioned Philip de la Vache was elected Knight of the Garter, temp. Richard II., and dying 1407, directs his body to be buried in the Church of St. Giles, of Chalfhant.

The Manor continued in the possession of the Bohuns till the death of the last of this line, Earl of Hereford and Essex, when it was divided between the representatives of his daughters. Of these, Mary was wife of Henry IV., mother of Henry V., while Eleanor, the eldest daughter, had married Thomas of Woodstock, Duke of Gloucester, and youngest son of Edward III. Their daughter Anne married Edmund, Earl of Stafford, whose son Humphrey was created Duke of Buckingham, and his son, Henry Stafford, Shakespeare's "Princely Buckingham," claimed the Manor, on the ground of his descent from the Bohuns. On his attainder by Richard III., it lapsed to the Crown. Its possession was confirmed by the attainder of his son, till in 1526, Henry VIII., granted it by patent to Sir John Russell, in capite, by Knight's service.

In 1610, James I., confirmed to Edward, Earl of Bedford, the Manor and Lordship of Agmondesham, *alias* Amersham, *alias* Amersham *cum pertinentibus*, all of which premises were of the value of £42 per annum.

Though it would be perhaps almost impossible clearly to ascertain the present locality of the different Manors specified in the Domesday Survey, yet at a very early period we find mention of different Manors in Amersham, the names of which still exist.

The first which appears to be distinctly mentioned is Raans. In 1235, John de Ran, or Rane, held the fourth part of a knight's fee, and payed 3s. 4d. scutage for lands in Aumodesham. Jordanus de Raan was father of Ricardus, whose son Walter de Raan, or Raans, held the Manor of Raans, with other lands in Amersham. His daughter Alice married Thomas de la Grove, and their daughter and heiress Agnes by marriage brought the estate to William Brudenell, of Aynho. This William had three sons, Edmund, clerk of the Parliament in the reign of Edward III., who at his death without issue in the reign of Henry VI., ordered his body to be buried in Agmondesham Church; William, and Henry. This Henry, by his will, 1430, left Shardeloes and other Manors to his son John, with remainder to his other son Edmund, who was ancestor to those of the name seated at Shardeloes, which terminated in a daughter and heir, Elizabeth, married to Thomas Cheney. From his third son, Robert, descended the Brudenells, of Stoke Mandeville. William, brother of Henry, by marriage with Agnes Bulstrode, obtained the Manors of Hedgerley and Chalfont St. Peters. Their son Edmund (first cousin to Edmund Brudenell, of Shardeloes) was lord of Raans, Coleshill, Chalfunt, &c., and patron of Missenden Abbey. His daughter by his first marriage was wife to Richard Waller, son of that Richard Waller who distinguished himself at Agincourt, and ancestor of the poet. He was married secondly to Philippa Englefield, by whom he had two sons, Drue and Sir Robert. He died, having made his will, 1457, in which are some curious particulars relative to Amersham. He directed his body to be buried in Agmondesham Church, near his wife, Philippa, and leaves to the making of a new bell in the Church, £6 13s. 4d., besides 66s. 8d. given by Agnes Bonvalet; to the provosts of the Church for the maintenance of the great light before the cross 20s., also to the maintenance of the light before St. Catherine's cross, 3s. 4d.; to the poor of Amersham, £4.; to the reparation of the highway to Ailesbury and Wendover, £40, towards which he wills that his gold cup, his two silver basons, and his great piece of gilt plate, with the cover, and three silver candlesticks be sent to the Tower of London to be melted down. He bequeaths to his son John, Chalfunt, Eure (Iver), Denham, and

Fulmer. To Edmund, Raans and Stoke; to Drue, the Manor of Hugeley (Hedgerley), and lands in various places, one of which is Amersham. To Sir Robert, founder of the family of Brudenell of Dean, Earls of Cardigan, he bequeaths his lands in Horton and Stanwell.

It would seem that John and Edmund, were sons by the first marriage, and died before their father, as Drue, who was twenty-five years of age at his father's death, took out administration to the will in 1469, and seems to have possessed Raans. He died in 1489,\* and was buried in the north aisle of the Church, leaving a son Edmund (or Simon, according to some), whose daughter and heiress, Elizabeth, married Sir Robert Drury.

Raans afterwards came into the hands of the Proby's, of whom Heneage Proby was Sheriff for Bucks, and Thomas Proby was member for Amersham, 1651. It was afterwards sold by John Earl Gower to the Duke of Bedford, of whom it was purchased by the Earl of Burlington, to whose son Lord Chesham it now belongs. The present house at Raans was built by the Proby family, and bears their arms over the door; ermine, on a *fess gules*, a lion passant *or*; Crest, an ostrich's head erased *argent*, ducally gorged *or*, in the beak a key of the last.

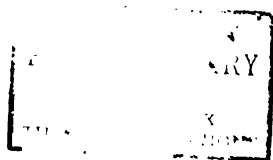
The Manor of Wedon Hill formerly belonged to the Wedon family, one of whom, Sir Ralph de Wedon, had besides this Manor other possessions in Amersham, and a house standing in the Market-place. For his loyalty to the unfortunate Edward II., he was by the Queen's faction deprived of all his possessions, which were afterwards restored to him, or his son, but only on a life tenure.†

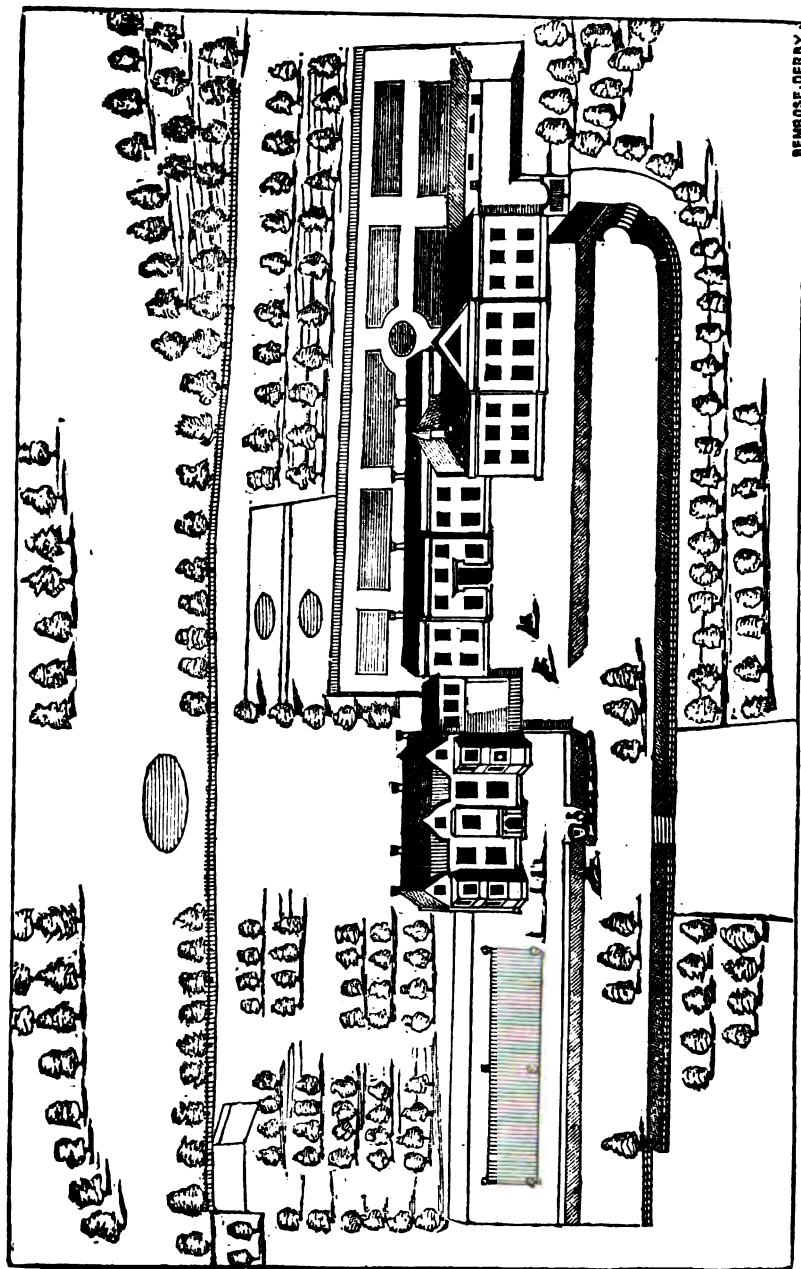
Edward the Third granted the Manor of Wedon Hill, and other places belonging to Sir Ralph de Wedon, to Sir John, afterwards Lord Cobham. The King and his son, the Black Prince, being reduced to great difficulties by the expenses of the French war, Sir John Cobham generously gave up the reversion of the greater part of his estates to them. The estates of Sir John Cobham passed into various hands, and the reversion of "Wedon Hill in Chiltone" in particular was given to Peter de Brewes, or Braose, in the 38th year of his reign. This

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\* So Collins; Lipscomb places his death in 1479.

† See "Records of Bucks," Vol. I., 211.





Bird's-eye View of the Old Mansion of Shardsloers.

Peter de Brewes was knighted, and, as appears by the Issue Rolls, received a pension of a hundred pounds a year from the King, "for good service in France."

The further history of Wedon Hill I have been unable to trace; it is now, together with the Manor of Woodrow, joined to the Shardeloes property.

The earliest distinct reference to Shardeloes seems to be in the reign of Edward III., who granted to William de Latymer a messuage and lands, called Shardeloes, formerly belonging to Simon de Bereford, then attainted and imprisoned in the Tower, as an adherent of Queen Isabel and Mortimer. In the reign of Henry VI., Shardeloes was held by Henry Brudenell, Lord of Raans. It was afterwards the property of the Tothills, and by the marriage of Joane, eldest daughter and co-heiress of William Tothill, and one of the extraordinary number of thirty-three children, it passed to Francis Drake, of Esher, whose grandson, Sir William Drake, Baronet, acquired by purchase the Manor of Amersham, thus uniting it to Shardeloes. He was the founder of the Amersham Almshouses, and has been by Lipscomb strangely confounded with his nephew and heir, Sir William Drake, Knight (not Baronet). This latter, says, Browne Willis, "built a very neat Town Hall, or Market House, which is the handsomest in the county, the building being of brick, standing on arched pillars, and embellished with freestone at the corners, with a lanthorn and clock at top." The old mansion of Shardeloes stood nearly on the site of the present one, but a little nearer the summit of the hill. Here William Tothill received Queen Elizabeth, who is said to have afterwards presented to him the portraits of herself and her chancellor, Sir Christopher Hatton, still remaining here. The gardens attached to it, formed out of a morass by Sir William Drake, nephew of the baronet, are highly praised by the authors of *Magna Britannia*\* as the chief object of interest to Amersham.

The accompanying bird's eye view of the old Mansion is from a family print in the possession of T. Tyrwhitt Drake, Esq., the present owner of Shardeloes, who kindly permitted it to be copied for the "Records."

The present House was built in the last century, and is a

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\* Published in 1720.

handsome specimen of the architecture of that date. It is so placed on the hill as to command the view of an extensive sweep of park, showing through the beautiful trees with which it is studded.

It does not clearly appear when or under what circumstances Amersham became a borough. Dr. Brady, quoted by Browne Willis, "attributes this privilege to its inhabitants being tenants in ancient demesne, and tells us that Parliament men for this place are chosen by homage in the Lord's Court Baron." The first members on record were Robert le Warner (or Warrennar), and Ralph atte Grove, in 28th Edward I., A.D. 1300. After the reign of Edward II. the representation, along with that of Wendover and Marlow, fell into abeyance, till in 1624 it was revived by the exertions of William Hakevill and John Hampden, in spite of the opposition of James I., who declared himself unwilling to have the number of the burgesses increased, declaring he was troubled with too great a number already. From that period, till disfranchised by the Reform Bill, Amersham continued to return two members, a list of whom is given by Willis; among them occur the names of Edmund Waller, the poet, in the reign of Charles I., and the celebrated Algernon Sidney, as also the two Sir William Drakes, the uncle and the nephew, William Cheney, afterwards Lord Newhaven, and other names of note.

As early as the year 1200 there is a record of the grant of a Market and Fair to Amersham, at the suit of Geoffrey Fitz Piers de Mandeville, and soon after another grant of a fair—probably a second annual fair.

In 1205 the King ordered Hugh de Neville to permit William Fitz John and Thomas his son to sell their woodland in Babington, and other places in Somerset, also in Aymodesham, "unless it be under the limits of our forest." Witnessed by Robert son of Roger, at Wudestock, 12th November.

From a deed of uncertain date it appears that Adam de la Stokke gave to Missenden Priory—founded by William de Missenden *anno* 1133—a house in Agmondesham, that namely which is in the Market place between the house of Ralf de Querdun and the house of R. de Wedune, on yearly payment of two shillings, twelve pence at Easter

and twelve pence at the feast of St. Michael. Also a mill called Brizthricke Mill.

In 1278, "the King confirmed to Walter de Amondesham all his lands and possessions in Agmondesham, to be held by service and payment of 6s. 8d., by charter," and three years later the same Walter had right of free warren in Amersham, Chesham, Little Missenden, Woburn, Beaconsfield, and Taplow.

In 1335, William de Burgh, Earl of Ulster, held certain lands and tenements in Amersham, probably in right of his descent from an heiress of the Mandevilles. In the previous year "the King granted to John de Moleyns in fee one toft and one carucate of land and twelve acres of land and one pond, with all lands and tenements in Little Missenden and Amersham, in the county of Bucks, late the property of Simon de Bereford now attainted, for him to hold by due service," and the same year he had a grant of free warren in Amersham and Little Missenden.

By the *Inquisitio Nonarum*, taken in the fourteenth and fifteenth of Edward III., it appears that the valuation of Augmondesham, in Pope Nicholas's Taxation at 66 marks was now—fifty years later—reduced to 40 marks, because about one-third of the parish was waste and uncultivated, and because twenty-two pounds of the original value consisted of offerings, mortuaries, tithes of hay and flax (which must therefore have been cultivated in the parish), and other small tithes paid by demesne and tenant lands, and because there were no inhabitants who could be taxed by the fifteenth. This gives some key to the condition of the parish at that time; as its inhabitants must have all been of sufficient substance to be taxed by the ninth, except, in the words of the Act, "the poor boraile people, or other that live of their bodily travaile," who were exempted from taxation.

In 1490, Philip Agmondesham, citizen and mercer of London, left by will to his cousin, Ralf Agmondesham, his best gown and £20; to the Church of Agmondesham 20s., and wills that Margaret his wife and John his son be jointly seised in the parish of Agmondesham, except what John Bertelott late held, being of the yearly value of £4.

John Agmondesham, in 1509, leaves to Joan and Alice, his two daughters, 100 marks each; "to Emma, my wife,

my Manors in Bucks, to keep my son John during his non-age."

John Warde, son of Thomas Warde, of Agmondesham, in 1507, wills that a priest sing for his soul, during a year, and bequeaths for his salary ten marks.

The Reformation early took root in this part. In 1413, certain Lollards were condemned to death at Amersham and Little Missenden; while, nearly a century later, "Thomas Tylesworth, in 1506, was burnt in a close called Stanley's, and his daughter, Joane Clark, forced to set fire to the pile. At the same time, above sixty professors, living in and near the town bore faggots for their penance, some of which were enjoined to wear a faggot on the sleeve, and others were branded on the cheek with the letter L, for Lollard, or H, for Heretick (a new invented punishment), as marks of disgrace. The same year, one Roberts, a miller of Missenden, was burnt at Buckingham, and within a year or two afterwards, Thomas Barnard and James Mordon were burnt at Amersham, at one stake, at which time William Littlepage, Father Roger, and Father Rever, *alias* Reve, were burnt on the cheek, which last not long after suffered at the stake. Thomas Chase was imprisoned in the Bishop of Lincoln's house, of Woburn, in a place called Little Ease, and when by threatenings and scoffs they could not move him to recant, they contrived to put him to death privately, and gave out that he had hanged himself, which to confirm they buried him in the highway, with a stake drove through his body, as a *felo-de-se*. John Scrivener was also burnt at Amersham, his own children being forced to set the first fire to him."

On the land called Stanley's, at the back of the Churchyard and Cemetery, popular tradition has assigned a spot where these victims to religious intolerance suffered, and where the corn has been said not to flourish. Various as this fact may be accounted for by natural causes, it has at least preserved the memory of the site through successive generations. The spot, under the direction of the late Mr. Marshall and other gentlemen of Amersham, was dug up, with a view to ascertain the real cause of its barrenness. It was found to be full of flints, which, being partially removed, the ground has since borne better than heretofore; still, however, in a dry season, showing a

difference from the surrounding land. It seems almost unnecessary to remark that, granting the tradition to be true, this spot may have been originally selected for the purpose, as being a piece of waste land, and from its situation on the hill, visible to the whole town.

We have no extant account of the general appearance of the Town earlier than the time of Leland, who visited it in the reign of Henry VIII. His description (with the exception of its Market day), would almost apply to its present state:—"Hagmondesham, *alias* Hamersham, a right pretty market town on Fryday, of one street well-built with tymber, standing in Buckinghamshire and Chilterne, 2 miles and a halfe from Little Missenden. The D. of Buckingham was chiefe Lord of it, since the Kinge, now the Lord Russell by gift, whoe dwelleth at Cheineis, 3 mile of by east. The paroch Church standeth by north-east toward the middle of the town, and in a Chappell on the north syde of it lyeth buried Edmund Brudenell, father to Sir Robert Brudenell, late Chiefe-Justice of the Common-Pleas, and Drew Brudenell, elder brother to the said Sir Robert, and Helena his wife, daughter to — Broughton, whoe dwelt at a Mannor of his, £40 per annum. There cometh a brook almost from Missenden, and passeth hard by Hagmondesham, leaving it almost by full south, on the right ripe, and after running downe by the valleis of Chilterne towards Colne streame."

In 1553, July 10th, during the struggle to secure the crown to Lady Jane Grey, John Knox was at Amersham, where alluding to the disturbances of the time, he, in a sermon, printed under the title of "Admonition to the faithful in England," foretold the approaching retribution from the giddy ways of the past years."

In 1603, Anne Clifford, afterwards celebrated as Countess of Dorset, Pembroke, and Montgomery, thus mentions Amersham:—"The night after, my Aunt of Warwick, my mother and I, as I take it, lay at Doctor Challener's, (wher my Aunt of Bath, and my Uncle Russell met us, which house my grandfather of Bedford used to be much at), being in Amersom. The next day the Queene went to a gentleman's house (whose name I cannot remember), where there met her many great ladies to kiss her hands; as the Marquess of Winchester, &c."

It is to be regretted that the name of this house (which was probably in this neighbourhood) should have escaped the amusing writer's memory.

It may be well to say a few words on the state of Amersham and the neighbourhood at the breaking out of the Civil Wars. Hampden, the renowned opposer of the obnoxious ship money, had been, it will be remembered, active in recovering to Amersham its representation in Parliament; his residence was in the neighbourhood; he was in the habit of attending the town as magistrate, as appears from the indentures of apprentices bearing his signature; so that it is reasonable to suppose that many of the inhabitants sympathized with him. As Amersham is expressly mentioned in the writ respecting the ship money, I quote a small portion of it:—"By our writ, bearing date the 4th day of August, in the 11th year of our reign\*\*\*\* we commanded the Sheriff of our County of Bucks\*\*\*\* the Major and Bailiffs of Chipping Wycombe, *alias* Wiccombe, as also the Burgesses of the said Burrough, and the good men in the said burroughs and parish, and in the said burroughs and parish and members of the same, and in the townes of Agmondesham, Wendover, and Great Marlow, and in all other places, townes, burroughs, villages, hamlets, and other places in the said county of Bucks, that you should cause to be fitted out one ship of war\*\*\*\*\*" One of the judges who delivered an opinion favourable to Hampden in this case was Sir George Croke, uncle to Dr. Croke, the then Rector of Amersham. Dr. Croke was, however, so far from joining the parliamentary side that he became Chaplain to the King, after whose death he retired to Ireland, and died at Carlow in 1657. Edmund Waller, who represented Amersham in three parliaments, was nephew of Hampden, and took the same view of the question of supplies—not however with such vehemence as irremediably to break with the Royalists.

It was during the Common-wealth times that Richard Baxter held here a dispute with certain Nonconformists from Chesham, of which he gives a description himself. The war of words raged in the Church till night, and a detachment of troopers was present, whether to take part in the discussion, or to keep the peace between the belligerent parties, does not very clearly appear.

The condition of Amersham, after the Protectorate, is

graphically described by Benjamin Robertshawe, Rector, in 1731. On a fly-leaf in the Register occurs this entry:—"Paul Ford was then lawfully elected Register, and sworn by Francis Russell, Esq., Justice of the Peace, the 20th day of the same month (October, 1656). To this Robertshawe has appended this remark. This Francis Russell lived at Chalfont St. Giles, on the confines of this parish. He was one of Oliver's Justices, and a fit man for the times. I knew his son, a kind of non-con.; who came to poverty, and sold the Farm. General Fleetwood lived at the Vache, and Russell on the opposite hill; and Mrs. Cromwell, Oliver's wife, and her daughters, at Woodrow high house, where afterwards lived Capt. James Thomson; so the whole country was kept in awe, and became exceedingly zealous, and very fanatical, nor is the poison yet eradicated, but the Whartons are gone, and the Hampdens a-going." This alludes to the Duke of Wharton, grandson of Lord Wharton, the celebrated Puritan nobleman, and to John Hampden, representative of the patriot. The first, by whose death the family and title became extinct, after a most profligate and wayward career, in which he shewed himself:—

A tyrant to the wife his heart approved,  
And rebel to the very king he loved;

had just died in great poverty at a small convent of Bernardine Monks in Catalonia, in 1731, the very year in which this entry was written. John Hampden, whose father, after a life not dissimilar to that of Wharton, had committed suicide in 1696, died towards the middle of the last century, when the male line became extinct.

Amersham contains many old houses; indeed, if white-wash and a few modern additions and alterations were removed, the town would not, perhaps, very greatly differ from its condition when Leland visited it. The most striking and picturesque old house in the town is Little Shardeloes, now the residence of Mrs. John Drake, and of which an illustration is given. It has evidently been a place of importance, and not improbably the Manor-house of Amersham. It is apparently a building of different dates—in its present state nearly square, with numerous gables. The back seems to be the oldest part. In one of the rooms is a curious old lock, having a coronet, and the initials E. A. wrought on it. On the north wall

of the garden is the date 1688, with the letters C. H. Probably this shows the time when the wall was built, and the house, perhaps, repaired or altered.

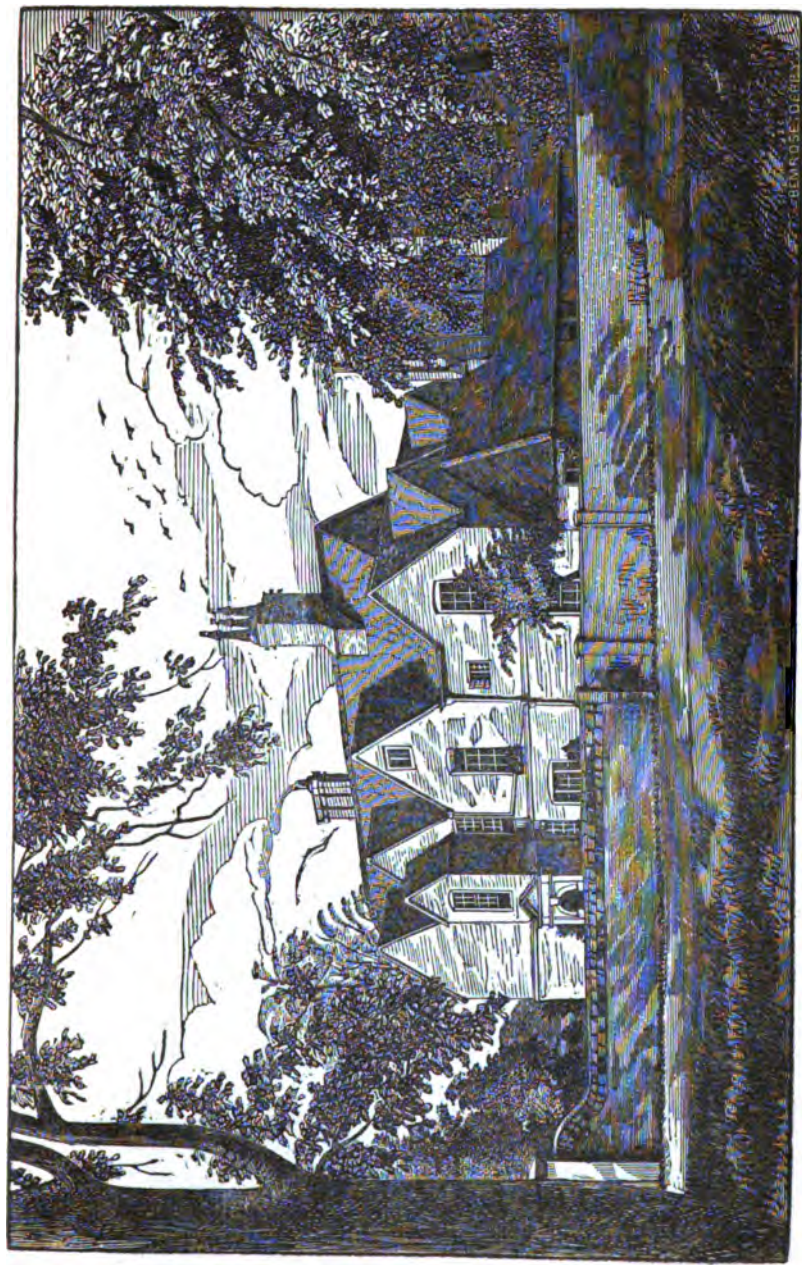
The house, now occupied by Mr. Beeson, from its position, would very well answer to the description of the house of Adam de la Stokke, given to Missenden Priory, or that belonging to Ralf de Wedune, both of which stood in the market-place (*in foro*). It contains an old fire-place, and the square-headed windows have large stone mullions. The house of Mr. Wilson has been thought to have been an old hostel or inn, and contains some windows, the wooden square-headed framework of which is ornamented with trefoil work, as shown in the accompanying illustration, at page 348, figure No. 2. Bury Farm, now in the occupation of Mr. Crouch, is a very old house, but so modernized that there remain few or no reliques of its ancient character, except an outer doorway, having a depressed arch. Corresponding to this, in the front of the older portion of the building, was a massive door, studded with nails, but now removed.

The almshouses were built by Sir William Drake, Bart., in 1617, and consist of a brick building on the south side of the street, with stone window casings and doorways, standing round three sides of a court; over the front door on a stone tablet are the founder's arms; in chief two mullets, in base a wyverne, his tail *nowed*, in a canton the Ulster badge; crest, an arm, coupée at the elbow, supporting an axe. Underneath it this inscription—

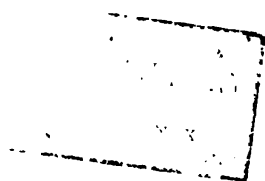
"Sir William Drake" of Shardeloes in ye county of Bucks, Knight and Baronet, in the year of our Lord 1617, to the glory of God, and for the relief of six poor widows well reputed in this parish, hath built six almshouses with all conveniences to them, and a very good allowance for ever, at his own cost and charges."

Among other charitable bequests (a list of which is given by Lipscomb), are benefactions by William Tothill, Lord Newhaven, Dr. Chaloner, &c., the last of whom founded the Grammar School.

The Church was probably founded by Geoffrey de Mandeville, no notice of a Church appearing in Domesday Book. He bestowed it upon the Abbey of Walden, which continued for some time to present to the living, after which the Bohuns were patrons. By the patent rolls it seems that the Abbot of Breghynok (Brecknock)



**Attile Schadeloes.**



claimed the advowson in the 22nd of Edward III., but no rector of their presentation appears in the list of incumbents. Two Bishops were in old times furnished by the living—W. de Marchiâ, presented in 1290, by Humphrey de Bohun, afterwards Bishop of Bath and Wells, and William Grey in 1437, afterwards High Treasurer of England and Bishop of Ely, to which Cathedral he was a great benefactor.

The Church itself, dedicated to St. Mary, consists of a chancel, nave, clerestory and aisles, transepts and porch on the south side. The whole building is embattled and has been covered with plaster rough cast. There is little of the interior remaining earlier than the perpendicular style, except some of the piers to the nave, which appear to be late decorated. The groining of the porch has some rich bosses at the intersection of the ribs. The pillars, supporting the arches between the nave and aisles, have been cased with wood, so as to conceal their original shape.

One of the earliest monuments in the Church is a brass in the north aisle, consisting of the figure of a civilian in a loose-sleeved gown, and a lady in a large heart-shaped head-dress, with this inscription:—*...c iacent Thomas Carbonell Armig<sup>r</sup>. & Elizabeth ux' ei' que q'dem Elizabeth obiit xiiij<sup>o</sup>. die Octob A<sup>o</sup>. dni mcccc' ..... et predictus Thomas obiit xxij<sup>o</sup>. die Aprilis A<sup>o</sup>. d'ni m<sup>o</sup>cccc<sup>o</sup>xxxix<sup>o</sup>. Quor' animab's p'picietur Deus: Am'n.*

A few letters of the inscription are lost from the wall covering one end of the brass plate.

I have not been able to connect the name of Carbonell with Amersham, though it occurs frequently in Bucks, so early as the reigns of Henry III. and Edward I. In the same aisle is a brass, the head broken off, as well as the inscription and armorial shields,—supposed by Lipscomb to be that of William Brudenell, who is said to have been buried in this Church, and to have borne the arms of Brudenell impaling Raans. He was, however, according to Collins, buried in the South aisle, where no such monument now appears; the only Brudenell there being Henry, son of this William, buried there together with his wife. The dress of both figures is very similar to the Carbonells. The inscription is:—*Hic iacet Henricus Brudenell Armig<sup>r</sup> et Alianora ux' ejus filia Hugonis*

Preston' filii Thome Preston' Militis q'quide' Henric' obiit xxvij die Januar' A° dni m°cccc°xxx° quor aiab's p'piciet' deus. Amen.

Near the above is a figure with long flowing hair, parted down the middle, and a gown lined with ermine, reaching to the feet; by his side a female in a veil, and dress with tight sleeves, turned up with ermine at the wrists, with this inscription in old English:—

Orate pro aiab's Joh's de la Penne et Elizabeth uxoris eius filie Petri Hally armigeri que quidem Elizabeth obiit vicesimo primo die mens Novembris Annod 'ni mill' mo v°c°xxj et id'm Joh'es obiit xxvij° die mens decebris Anno d'ni m°v°xxxvij. Quor' aiab's p'picietur deus. Amen.

In the same aisle (the south) is a brass effigy of a child, kneeling, richly attired; under it these two inscriptions—  
John Drake, sonne of Francis Drake, of Esshere, in the county of Surrey, Esq., by Katherin, his wife, dyeing ye 2 of Aprill, in the 4 yere of his age, 1623, lies here buried—

Had hee liv'd to bee a man,  
This inch had grown but to a span,  
Now is hee past all fear of paine,  
'Twere sinn to wish him heere againe.  
Vewe but the way by wch wee come,  
Thow! say hee's best that's first at home.\*

Many other brasses and some stone coffins are said to be under the seats. There must have been many monuments in the north aisle, which was the burying place of the Raans, and afterwards of the Brudenells, of whom, besides those just mentioned, there were buried in Amer-sham Church, Edmund Brudenell, and his wife, about 1425, another Edmund, with Philippa his wife, about 1460, and Drue with his wife Hellen, buried 1439, in the north aisle, as appears by Leland's account; his monument bearing the arms of Brudenell impaling Englefield, and Brudenell impaling Broughton. In the chancel and the handsome mausoleum adjoining are numerous monuments to the Tothill and Drake family, illustrating various styles during the last two centuries. And here I must especially mention the very chaste and beautiful monument to the memory of the late Mr. Drake, of Shardeloes.

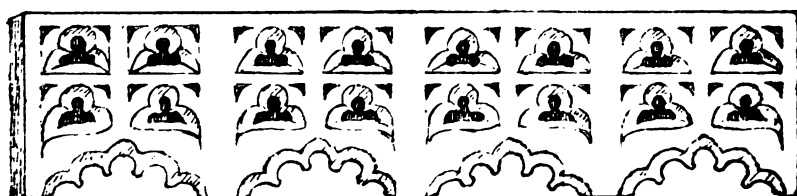
The east window was brought from a private Chapel belonging to the Garrard family at Lamer, Herts, about

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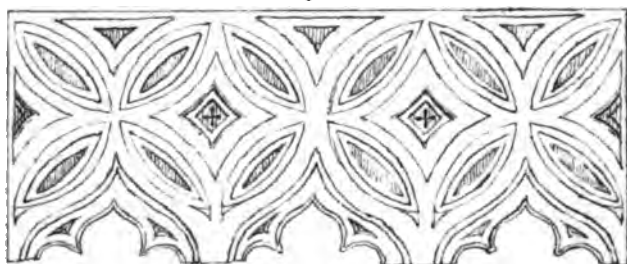
\* See illustration, figure No. 1.



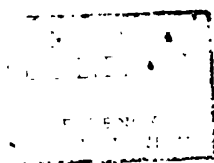
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3



1. Brass of John, son of Francis Drake, A.D. 1623.
2. Carved oak window head from an old house in Amersham.
3. Ditto at Chesham.



a century ago, the glass having been previously collected abroad. It is a very fine specimen of mediæval stained glass, representing ten of the Apostles, the faces being remarkably fine and expressive.

The Church registers extend back to 1551, and possibly if carefully examined might be found to contain various entries illustrative of the history of the place. There is also an old parish account book, beginning with the 31st year of Henry VIII., which, to judge from a very brief examination, seems to contain entries that might illustrate the progress of the Reformation at Amersham.

I am not aware that this town has ever produced any leading character, military or political, in English history. Fuller speaks of two or three authors born here, who were more or less celebrated in their day. John Amersham was a monk of St. Alban's, and bosom friend of the Abbot, John Wheathamsted. Fuller says, "now there was a great faction in that monastery against their Abbot, which to me seemeth no wonder; for the generality of Monks being lewd, lazy, and unlearned, they base an antipathy to their abbot who was pious, painful and a profound scholar; nor did they only rail on his person while living, but also revile his memory when dead. Our Amersham, surviving his dear friend, wrote a book (beside other of his works), intituled 'The Shield of Weathamsted,' therein defending him from the undeserved obloquies of his enemies. He flourished A.D. 1450."

Thomas Dorman was born at Amersham, and brought up as a protestant at Berkhamstead School, but becoming a Romanist, went abroad and wrote a book, "against Alexander Nowel, the English Calvinist."

The most celebrated character to whom this parish has given birth was Edmund Waller, born at Coleshill, whose baptism, occurs in the register in these words:—"1605, March. Edmund Waller, son of Robert W., Esquire, bapt. 9th." His character, both as a poet and as politician has been so frequently portrayed that it will be sufficient to quote Johnson's description of his principles:—"As far as conjecture can be made from the whole of his writing and his conduct, he was habitually and deliberately a friend to monarchy. His deviation towards democracy proceeded from his connection with Hampden." His irresolute and shifting conduct remains a blot on his

memory, but as a poet he will ever be remembered for the great improvements he introduced into English versification. Towards the close of his life he bought a small house with a little land at Coleshill, saying "he should be glad to die, like the stag, where he was roused." He died, however, at Beaconsfield in 1687, and was there buried.

John Gregory, described by Anthony Wood, as "the miracle of his age for critical and curious learning," was born at Amersham in 1607. He went to Christ Church, as servitor to Sir William Drake, and under the patronage of Dr. Duppa, who had been struck with his extraordinary and profound learning, he received various pieces of ecclesiastical preferment. From these he was driven by the parliamentary commissioners, during the Commonwealth, and reduced to utter destitution. A humble refuge was afforded to him by a village Innkeeper at Kidlington, to whose son Gregory had formerly shown kindness, and taken him into his service. Here in extreme poverty, and tortured by gout, this brilliant scholar lingered out the last years of his life, dying in 1646. He wrote notes on "a View of Ecclesiastical and Civil Law, by Sir Thomas Ridley," and numerous other treatises, one of which is an account of the institution of the Boy Bishop at Salisbury, while others display his acquaintance with many oriental languages.

Gregory's first patron—Sir William Drake—was born in 1606, and created a baronet in 1641. He appears from his epitaph to have been devoted to literature, and to have collected an extensive library of rare and curious books. For a considerable time before his death his eyesight had so far failed him that he was compelled to have a reader. Though firmly attached to his king and his Church, he does not appear to have taken any active part on the royalist side, by which discreet course probably he preserved his estate uninjured. In the words of his epitaph; "his loyalty led him to hate, while his prudence enabled him to despise the nefarious proceedings of the rebels." Finding, however, that they were bent on entrapping him into giving some color of punishing him for his "malignant" opinions, he went abroad, leaving his property under the care of a steward, by whose careful management it was augmented in value. He died A.D. 1669.

A brief account of Colleshill seems a fitting conclusion to this paper. Though considered as part of Hertfordshire (for reasons now lost in antiquity), it is supposed to have formed a part of Geoffrey de Mandeville's Manor of Amersham, but is not specially mentioned earlier than the reign of Edward I., when Walter de Agmondesham acknowledged holding certain lands in the stock, the right of Humphrey de Bohun. It continued to be known by the name of Old Stock, or Stock place, and afterwards belonged to the Brudenells, of whom Edmund Brudenell, Lord of Raans, held it 1469, and by his first marriage left one daughter Alice, married to Richard Waller, of Groombridge, Kent. Whether this brought the Wallers into the neighbourhood does not clearly appear, but Colleshill is said to have been by Thomas Brudenell conveyed to William Counser, 20 Henry VII., whose family sold it to Edmund Waller, a distant relation of the poet. His daughter Ann married Peter Saltonstall; they conveyed it to Sir Basil Brook of Madeley, Salop, who sold it in 1615 to George Coleshil, of Ivinghoe Aston, for £1,860, who after demolishing the greater part of the Manor House sold it to James Parrot, of Amersham. Having passed to Henry Child, of Colleshill, and from him to Henry Child, of Amersham, it was purchased in accordance with the will of Elizabeth Bent, which directed £700 to be laid out in the purchase of freehold lands, to pay annually a stipend to the rector of Amersham for preaching four sermons in the parish Church, the remainder to be applied to the comfort of six poor widows, being godly persons, constant attendants at divine service and holy communion. It may not be uninteresting to give the account of Colleshill in the Parliamentary Survey of Livings in 1649, which, though quoted by Lipscomb, seems worthy of repetition on the present occasion, as showing that the need of a Church for Colleshill was felt two centuries ago. It is as follows: "We present that Colleshill is a Hamlett belonging two parts to the parish of Agmundsham, and one to the parish of Beaconsfield, in the county of Bucks. That it is situate two miles distant from either of the parishes; that it is near no other parish; that it lyeth between the said parishes in the mid-way; that the parishes aforesaid are parsonages presentative. The one Agmondesham, worth near £300 per

annum, whereof the tithes of the two parts of the Hamlett, £50 per annum. The other, Beaconsfield, worth £150 per annum, whereof the other part of the said hamlett belonging to the said parish is worth £20 per annum; so that the tithes of the said hamlett are worth £70 per annum. That there are in the said hamlett 40 families, consisting of two hundred persons, most of them living two miles from each parish Church. And that we conceive that in the said hamlett a Church were fit to be erected and endowed with the tithes thereof, the people earnestly desiring the same." Sir Henry Chauncy gives the following account: "The inhabitants have a tradition that within this hamlett stood an ancient Chappel, and there are some circumstances to confirm it, for the foundation of an old building hath been lately ploughed up in a certain field in this vill, and the Farm to which that field belongs bears the name of Chappel Farm; without doubt this little spot of land hath in some ages past been a place of some note, for besides those above-mentioned, some other piles of building stood here, but those demolished so long since that no man can tell what or whose they were; nor should this age have known that any such at all had been did not the rubbish and foundations remaining yet within the ground bespeak it. Of these, the most considerable is found within a wood called Brainford Wood, at the entrance into the hamlett on Amersham side and not far from that, in a ploughed field, stood another smaller pile, the foundation of which being of late years digged up, discovered very curious paving work in a manner of dice work. The common opinion is that this was a Chapel oratory, belonging to the adjacent greater structure, and my author tells me that he was well acquainted with the man who some years since ploughed up a weathercock in that place, which was supposed to have stood upon the chappell; and he farther related to me that he once saw a piece of brass comb, about the bigness of half-a-crown, which was also ploughed up there; but through the carelessness of him that had it, 'tis now lost."

Thus imperfectly have we traced the history of Amersham from the earliest times downwards. The mail-clad baron, with his dependants, who alternately supported or defied the king, the gallant gentleman of later times, who

received his queen at his country seat, the loyal cavalier, and the stern puritan—all are alike passed away, and little is it that we can now collect about them. Yet not in vain has their history been recalled if we draw from it the lessons it offers, whether of example or warning, not unmindful too what memorials they have left behind,—a Church endowed for the spiritual wants of all, or a charity founded for the temporal need of the poor. If with these feelings we look into the history of the past, we shall not find it an uninstrusive study, nor while fully conscious of, and thankfully rejoicing in, the greater advantages we enjoy, shall we view in a too censorious spirit the faults and the failings of those who have gone before.

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#### DISCOVERY OF HUMAN REMAINS.

At the end of September, 1861, as a workman was digging a trench on the premises of Mr. Robert Gibbs, in Church-street, Aylesbury, he came in contact with a quantity of human bones which had evidently lain there for a very long period. The skulls and a few other bones of two adults were found; they were in a perfect state, but were much broken by the spade. The teeth were very sound, the enamel being but little affected by time. The apparent position in which the remains were lying was West to East; they were near to and partly under the foundation of the house, and in such a position that further trace could not be well made, or there is little doubt but that the skeletons would have been found entire. They were both in the same position, lying side by side, two feet apart, and about two feet below the present surface. It is probable that the ground has at some time been considerably lowered which will explain the apparent shallow interment. Nothing in the shape of any portion of coffin, metal, or any other material, could be seen. The mould surrounding the remains was of a very dark colour; over this was loamy earth on which the foundation of the building stood. It is supposed that these premises once formed a burial place connected with one of the ancient religious houses or hospitals of the town.

## THE GARRISON OF NEWPORT PAGNELL DURING THE CIVIL WARS.

BY REV. H. ROUNDELL.

(*Concluded from page 312.*)

Upon the first day of June 1645, Sir Robert Pye surrendered the Town of Leicester to the Royal Army. In the attack of the previous day, the chief if not the only determined resistance to the besiegers had been made by Major Ennis and the Newport soldiers. They had been placed in charge of the portion of the fortifications then called "The Newe Worke," on the south side of the Town, near an old stone wall, against which Prince Rupert had directed the King's artillery to be planted. In this wall a large breach had been made, but repaired and defended by Ennis, who twice repulsed the enemy with great loss: he continued to maintain his position for three hours after the rest of the Town was taken, and obtained good terms of capitulation when surrounded and attacked from the opposite side.\* A Parliamentary Journal, naturally anxious to support its own cause, states that Ennis plunged into the river and escaped,† but it is certain that he surrendered himself together with his men. He petitioned Parliament for an investigation into his conduct at Leicester, and obtained a high testimony to his courage from the House of Commons, who voted him a gift of one hundred pounds, and obtained his release by exchange for Major Maxey:‡ and within a fortnight after the fall of Leicester he had returned to Newport Pagnell and placed himself again under the command of his steady friend, Sir Samuel Luke.||

The period of Luke's command had now expired, and he was prepared to leave his post as soon as his successor

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\* Egerton MS., No. 786, folio 34 b.

† *Perfect Diurnall*, Munday 2<sup>d</sup> of June, to Munday the 9<sup>th</sup> of June, 1645.

‡ *Commons Journals*, Die Sabbati, Junii 7<sup>o</sup>, and Die Martis, Junii 10<sup>o</sup>, 1645.

|| Egerton MS., No. 786, folio 14 b.

was appointed. But the imminent danger from any further advance of the King towards London, and the universal terror which the surrender of Leicester had created among the supporters of the Parliament made the maintenance of the frontier garrison of Newport of paramount importance. The celebrated City Petition of the fifth of June, unmistakeably alluded to Newport Pagnell in the paragraph calling on both Houses to take measures for "Prevention of the Enemy's further Surprising of other "Places of Strength, and destroying the rest who had "appeared in Defence of the Parliament, and for Preservation of the Kingdom."\* At this crisis of the Civil Wars, the whole garrison at Newport consisted of one troop of horse and less than six hundred foot.† Besides losing a troop at Leicester, Luke had been obliged to send a reinforcement to Major General Skippon, near Oxford, who instead of returning these soldiers for the defence of Newport, had marched them to Abingdon. The Governor's Dispatch of the sixth of June, addressed to the Lord Roberts, fully confirms all the apprehensions for the security of the garrison then entertained in London. In it he says *The Country all hereabouts are growne soe malignant, y<sup>t</sup> neither ye power of ye Army or of ye Com<sup>tees</sup> could bee sufficient to fforce in Provisions, w<sup>ch</sup> hath soe much exhausted this Towne, & y<sup>e</sup> pts adioyning to ye Towne y<sup>t</sup> if his Matys Army should approach before wee are againe recruited this Towne cannot possibly hold out, though hee only lyes about it according to a Com<sup>and</sup> from ye Lords I sent warr<sup>ts</sup> to ye Com<sup>tees</sup> of Bed: for p<sup>ro</sup>visions but very few came in, And truly my Lord if yu did but see w<sup>t</sup> a change o<sup>r</sup> late ill successe hath made in these p<sup>ts</sup>, yu would admire it,*\*\*\*

*Yor honors most humble  
servant*

Newport June 6<sup>th</sup>  
1645.

S. L.‡

The alarm indeed in London had been so great, that the day before the above dispatch was written both Houses of Parliament, at the request, adds Mr Whitelock, § of the

\* *Lords Journals*, Die Jovis, 5<sup>o</sup> die Junii, 1645.

† Egerton MS., No. 786, folio 40 b.

‡ Id., folio 9 b.

§ *Memorials of the English Affairs*, page 149.

inhabitants of Newport Pagnell, had extended Luke's Commission as Governor for twenty days longer, and this Order was sent away in such haste, as on its arrival to be found wanting the necessary signatures.\* Luke continued pressing his demands for men and munitions of war upon the Committee of Both Kingdoms, now thoroughly alive to the possible consequences of their previous neglect of this garrison, and smarting under the not undeserved censure cast on them by the City Petition. An order was issued for one hundred and fifty Pikes, and two hundred and fifty Musquets out of the public stores to be sent down speedily to Newport.† Lord Roberts commissioned Luke to forward to London daily intelligence of the King's movements and strength;‡ and within a few days the House of Commons ordered "the Gentlemen of the " Eastern Association and others concerned in the Pay " to the Garrison at *Newport Pagnell*, to consider of the " Settling of the Garrison of *Newport Pagnell*, and that " they should advise herein with the Gentlemen of the " Counties of *Oxon* and *Bucks*.§

Meantime however Sir Thomas Fairfax had raised the siege of Oxford, and after a desperate but fruitless assault with his whole army upon the gallant little garrison in Borstoll House, marched to the protection of Newport, stationing himself at Penny Stratford.|| Colonel Vermyden hastened with his brigade from Oundle in Northamptonshire, to join with Fairfax, and on the sixth of the month reached Olney, assigned to him for quarters by Sir Samuel, where he found two troops of the Scottish horse, under Colonel Middleton, lately come up and occupying the fort.\*\* Protected from any sudden surprise by these troops, Fairfax being to the south within easy reach; and Vermyden and Middleton to the north between himself and the King's army, Luke was enabled to send out on the twelfth of June his old ally Major Ennis with a troop of one hundred horse and dragoons to lie in wait between Brackley and Daventry for a party of the enemies cavalry

\* Egerton MS., No. 786, folio 4. b.

† *Commons Journals*, Die Veneris Junii, 1645.

‡ Egerton MS., No. 786, folio 79 b.

§ *Commons Journals*, Die Mercurii Junii 11o, 1645.

|| *Moderate Intelligencer*, June 5 to June 12, 1645.

\*\* Egerton MS., No. 786, folio 3 b. and folio 6.

reported to be going out of Oxford, and with orders to return to Newport, in the event of news of any defeat of the Parliamentary forces, or of the forward march of the King.\* While Ennis was absent on this service, Fairfax having obtained supplies of provisions from the stores at Newport, and collected his stragglers, moved forward the main body of his army to Weston, near Newport Pagnell, and was there joined by Cromwell, who lodged himself in Lady Throgmorton's house,† and thence the united armies of the Parliament marched forward to engage the King upon the decisive field of Naseby.

Naseby battle was fought upon Saturday, the fourteenth of June, and the Governor of Newport ordered that a Public Thanksgiving for the victory should be celebrated in the Parish Church upon the following day. Two Captains of Fairfax's army, named Hobson and Beaumont, both belonging to Colonel Fleetwood's regiment, happened to be then at Newport with passes from Fleetwood to go to London. During the preceding week they had held religious meetings, and preached in various parts of the town, greatly to Luke's indignation. On Sunday morning these officers, instead of attending the Thanksgiving Service, collected a large crowd of men, women, and children, and taking them to Lathbury, a village about two miles distant, held a religious exercise of their own in a private house. Luke's anger, which had been hitherto only kept in check by the impending danger from the King's army, now exceeded all limits. Skilfully availing himself of an Ordinance of Parliament very recently passed, directing all Governors of Garrisons to apprehend and return all stragglers from the army, he ordered Hobson and Beaumont into custody, and sent them back to Sir Thomas Fairfax as prisoners under the charge of an Ensign and Provost Martial. Luke is guarded in his statement of this affair to Fairfax which accompanied the prisoners, but to his relative, Mr. Ford, he writes without reserve, *Cosin*, he says, "*your Lre I rec<sup>d</sup> but shall bee glader of yo<sup>r</sup> Company, if yu see I come not to yu soddenly I hope yu will come to mee, ye 2 Godly devines belonging to Col: ffeleewoods Regim<sup>t</sup> I have*

\* Egerton MS., No. 786, folio 38 and folio 14 b,

† Id, folio 15.

*apprehended & sent as yu may see by these incloased, ye circumstances my L<sup>t</sup> Col: will acquaint yu, who for his doggs sakes interceaded much in their behalves, yet noe whitt at all pruailed, they were preaching all ye weeke long & I left ym alone, & now when I had ordered a publike thankesgiveing for Gods unspeakable mercy to us, for ym to draw my Parishioners away & soe leave ye Church empty I could noe longer endure if they retourne backe againe to mee I shall send ym up to yor Assembly, & then I hope yu will take order yt such Annabaptisticall Companions trouble us noe more, I heare ye preaching & praying Regim<sup>t</sup> as they terme ym, trusted more to earth than to heaven for their heeles were their cheifest reffuge wiz<sup>t</sup> ye Ma Genalls, Pickerings, & Montagues, Regim<sup>t</sup> Raynsborrows Rob<sup>t</sup> Handons, & ye Genalls stood to it, Col: ffeetewoods most of ym found foure Leggs under ym for ye Col: & his Maior I knowe noe pticulers but hope they did well, I pray remember mee to yor wife & assure yorselfe y<sup>t</sup> my constant prayers shall be for both their healths & remaine*

*Newport June 16<sup>th</sup>  
1645.*

*Yor faithfull freind &  
servant.  
S. L.\**

Some additional information respecting the preaching of these Captains is contributed by Mr. Staines in his "History of Newport Pagnell," page 92—3. Under the year 1645, he states, 'we have met with two Exercises preached in Newport Pagnell during this year, by Captain Paul Hobson. In the advertisement to the impartial readers, the Captain-parson thus complains of the treatment he received: "It is now about a year and a half since, for delivering of this following treatise in a quiet and peaceful manner in Newport Pagnell and Lathbury, in the County of Buckinghamshire, I was imprisoned by the Governor of Newport; but since that, not myself alone, but the truth becomes a sufferer, through the sundry reproachful epithets of Mr. Pryne, his brother Grangena, and some that had a hand in my imprisonment, affirming that what I delivered there was "blasphemy." It has been stated,' adds Mr. Staines,

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\* Egerton MS., No. 786 folio 20.

‘ by some, that Hobson was imprisoned for preaching  
 ‘ against infant baptism, and by others, that he was a fifth  
 ‘ monarchy-man; but as these discourses turn simply on  
 ‘ the subject of religious experience, they afford no clue  
 ‘ to elucidate the question in dispute.” The letter to  
 Mr. Ford, and the other correspondence of Sir Samuel on  
 this subject leave no doubt that the two Captains were  
 apprehended for an offence against the Governor’s ideas  
 of Church discipline rather than of unsound doctrine.

But Sir Thomas Fairfax and Colonel Fleetwood were  
 far from acquiescing in this treatment of their officers.  
 Both replied to Sir Samuel Luke’s letter. Fleetwood,  
 who was his kinsman, with a studied moderation, assuming  
 that Luke’s subordinates had acted in this business con-  
 trary to his wishes, and himself only writing “*out of*  
*tenderness to his Honour which might possibly suffer by*  
*such ways,*” \* Fairfax in a more peremptory style,  
 asserting that the Newport officers had treated their  
 prisoners with great harshness, and requiring that the  
 Ensign and Provost Martial, who had taken Hobson and  
 Beaumont into custody, should be both instantly cashiered. †  
 Upon the arrival of this demand, Luke appointed a  
 Council of War to hear and determine the whole affair,  
 with orders that if after full enquiry they found the New-  
 port officers to be guilty of improper usage of the two  
 Captains, then to cashier them, but if not, to send up the  
 depositions and their finding to the Parliament. The  
 further conduct of this business was committed to Lieu-  
 tenant Colonel Cockayne, the second in command at  
 Newport. He was then, it will be remembered, a candi-  
 date for the Governorship, and with an evident desire to  
 conciliate Sir Thomas Fairfax, prevailed upon the Coun-  
 cil of War, to cashier the Ensign and Provost Martial,  
 informing Fairfax that *this was the least satisfaction w<sup>h</sup>*  
*could bee given to those 2 Gentlemen,‡* Hobson and  
*Beaumont*, while upon the same day in another letter he  
 told Sir Samuel *that the Council of War had found*  
*nothing against Ensign Fish at all.* ||

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\* Egerton MS., No. 786 folio 48.

† Id., folio 47 b.

‡ Id., folio 45.

|| Id., folio 46.

The sentence of the Court Martial would probably have been otherwise had Luke remained at Newport. His prolonged command expired upon the 26th of June, two days before the finding of the Court Martial, and he immediately repaired to London, and resumed his attendance in the House of Commons, devoting himself with unabated diligence to the cause he had espoused. In July he was selected to carry down the Orders of the House, to the Committees and Deputy Lieutenants of Bedfordshire, directing them to raise the old levies as well as the new recruits for the army of Fairfax, and to put into speedy and due execution the Ordinance for punishing such impressed Soldiers as had run away from their Colours.\* This service accomplished, Luke returned again to London. He served on the Parliamentary Committees for examining Petitions from the Earl of Stamford.† and Sir John Danvers,‡ upon the Select Committee to which a Bill entitled, "An Act for the better Observation of the Lord's Day," was referred on the Second Reading;‡ was appointed one of the Commissioners for the better settling of the Presbyterical Government;|| and was nominated with other members of the House to prepare and bring in an "Ordinance for Regulating of the University of Oxford."§ Early in the month of January in the following year of 1647, Luke obtained a final settlement of the arrears of pay due to him as Colonel of a troop of Horse, and Governor of Newport Pagnell, amounting altogether to 448*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.*\*\* From this time forward he appears to have been less active or less influential in the cause of the Parliament. By the death of the Earl of Essex he had lost a steady and valued friend. In every thought, principle, and action, Luke was identified with the Presbyterian party, so powerful at the beginning of the Civil Wars, but then rapidly declining before the more vigorous and fanatic spirit of Independency as embodied in the Army of the New Model. Even in the

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\* *Commons Journals*, Die Martis, Julii primo, 1645.

† *Id.*, Die Jovis, 10<sup>o</sup> Septembris, 1645.

‡ *Id.*, Die Martis, 20<sup>o</sup> Januarii 1645.

|| *Weekly Account*, from June 2 to June 10<sup>th</sup>, 1646.

§ *Commons Journals*, Die Mercurii, 1<sup>o</sup> Julii, 1646.

\*\* *Id.*, Die Lunæ, 11<sup>o</sup> Januarii, 1646.

House of Commons, the stronghold of the Presbyterians, the influence of the opposite faction was strong enough to maintain Cromwell in chief command, notwithstanding the Self-denying Ordinance, till at length the Army became virtually supreme over the Long Parliament. Luke, it is probable, either finding his own services unappreciated, or disheartened at the prospect of affairs, retired to his house at Cople, and in the August following was suddenly arrested "upon some information," but shortly afterwards liberated. He was however too good a soldier to be entirely forgotten, and when previous to the Restoration the Militia was remodelled, he was offered a Colonelcy of Foot and a Captaincy of Horse, and his son Oliver Luke placed in the Commission of Assessment. In the new Parliament he again represented Bedford, but at its close took his final leave of public life.\* At Newport Sir Samuel Luke appears to have preserved copies of his Dispatches and Correspondence, transcribed in folio volumes. Three of these volumes are now in the British Museum Library, under the title of the Egerton Manuscripts, Nos. 785, 786, 787, and have supplied a large portion of the materials of the present paper. They contain Letters from Cromwell, Essex, Fairfax, and other leaders in the Civil Wars, Reports of Spies, Muster Rolls, Lists of Prisoners, Warrants for Supplies, and intelligence of military affairs in various parts of the Kingdom, especially in Buckinghamshire, and well deserve the attention of any future Historian of this County. Another volume apparently from the same series is in the Library of the Earl of Ashburnham. It is described at length in Dr. O'Connor's *Bibliotheca MS. Stowensis*, vol. 2. page 445, and is stated to contain correspondences between the tenth of October, 1644, and the twenty-fifth of February, 1645.

At the present day Sir Samuel Luke is better remembered as the original of Butler's Hudibras, than the successful Scout-master of the Earl of Essex, or the resolute Governor of Newport Pagnell. In that poem, some of the peculiarities in personal appearance, some of the incidents in Luke's life are narrated, and as if to prevent

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\* *Memoirs of Sir Samuel Luke, Knt.*, Gent. Mag., 1823. Pt II. vol. 93. p. 123.

the possibility of misapprehension, the author indicates his name in the unfinished couplet, which every reader can fill up—

Tis sung, there is a valiant Mamaluke  
In foreign land, ycleped

[Sir Samuel Luke.]

and then proceeds, marking the resemblance more distinctly—

To whom we have been oft compar'd  
For person, parts, address, and beard;  
And in the same cause both have fought;  
He oft in such attempts as these  
Came off with glory and success:  
Nor will we fail in th' execution,  
For want of equal resolution.\*

It assists in confirming the identification of Hudibras with Sir Samuel Luke to find the latter mentioned by name and made to agree with the description of Hudibras (Part 1. Canto 1.) in the lines ascribed to Butler, and printed in an Edition of his Works, though not fully authenticated, entitled "The Tale of the Cobbler and the Vicar of Bray," and commencing—

In Bedfordshire there dwelt a Knight,  
Sir Samuel by name,  
Who by his feats in civil broils  
Obtained a mighty fame;  
Nor was he much less wise than stout  
But fit in both respects  
To humble sturdy Cavileers  
And to support the sects;  
This worthy Knight, was one who swore  
He would not cut his beard,  
Till this ungodly nation was  
From Kings and Bishops cleared;  
Which holy vow he firmly kept,  
And most devoutly wore  
A grisly meteor on his face  
Till they were both no more.

There is undoubtedly much untrue exaggeration of Luke's appearance and foibles in Butler's Poem, and Dr. Johnson remarks with great truth, "In forming the character of Hudibras, and describing his person and habiliments, the author seems to labour with a tumultuous confusion of dissimilar ideas. He had read the history of the mock knights-errant; he knew the notions and manners of a presbyterian magistrate, and

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\* Hudibras, Part 1. Canto 1.

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PORTRAIT OF SIR SAMUEL LUKE.

[Photographed by J. C. May.]

“ tried to unite the absurdities of both, however distant, in one personage. Thus he gives him that pedantic ostentation of knowledge, which has no relation to chivalry, and loads him with martial encumbrances, that can add nothing to his civil dignity. He sends him out a *colonelling*, and yet never brings him within sight of war.”\* The well known story that Butler was an inmate of Sir Samuel Luke’s family, and owed him many obligations, is noticed by the writer of the *Memoirs of Sir Samuel Luke, Knt.* in the Gentleman’s Magazine for August, 1823, who states it to be without sufficient foundation, and not mentioned by Wood or Aubrey, and to occur first in an anonymous life of Butler, prefixed to an edition of Hudibras. The first and second cantos of that poem were published during the lifetime of Luke. He died at his family seat at Cople in Bedfordshire, and was buried there on the 30th of August, 1670. Besides Butler’s satirical description, much is said of his personal appearance by Birkenhead, Cleveland, and Needham, writers during the Civil Wars, but happily, undoubted portraits of Sir Samuel, and Lady Luke, and their son Oliver, are preserved in the fine old Manor House at Adderbury, in Oxon, the property of the Reverend W. Cotton Risley, who succeeded to this estate after the death of the late Mr. Barbor, the lineal descendant of Mr. Barbor, brother-in-law to Sir Samuel Luke. The picture of Sir Samuel has never been engraved, and the members of the Society as well as the contributor of this paper, are much indebted to the Reverend W. Cotton Risley, for permission to enrich these pages with the accompanying Photograph of this, the only known existing Portrait of the Governor of Newport Pagnell, and the original of Hudibras, gratuitously executed, and presented to “The Records” by Mr. J. C. May, of Aylesbury.

After the departure of Sir Samuel Luke for London, on the 27th of June, the Committee for Supply of the Commands of the Members of the Armies and Garrisons invested Lieutenant Colonel Cockayne with the temporary command of the Garrison until further order should be made by the Parliament. During July, the active canvas

\* The Works of the English Poets, with Prefaces, Biographical and Critical, By Dr. Samuel Johnson, London, 1810; vol. viii. page 91.

for the post, which had been commenced in the preceding May, was continued with unabated vigour, and conducted with considerable irritation on all sides. All the earlier candidates had withdrawn, with the exception of Cockayne, who upon the admission of his own friends, was ill-qualified for so important a command.\* But a new competitor had appeared in Major Temple, a relative of Sir Peter Temple, and supported by Skippon, and Colonel Richard Browne, then Major General of the Counties of Buckingham, Oxford, and Berks.† With the view of damaging Temple's pretensions Cockayne procured various accusations to be raked up against him and embodied in a document, curiously illustrative of the bitter feeling which accompanied this contest.

*To the Speaker of the house of Commons      At the Request of Lt: Col: Cockayne concerning ye carriage of Maior Temple, dureing his being Maior to Col: ffienness (not soe much for ye satisfac-*

*facion of ye s<sup>d</sup> Lt: Col) as out of faithfulness to ye State, hearing Maior Temple standeth for ye Gounm<sup>t</sup> of Newport a Torne of soe greate concernemt, wee whose names are here subscribed doe upon or Honors attest, w<sup>t</sup> wee orselves know (& can make good by diverse others) concerning ye carriage of ye said Maior, during his being in Col: ffienness Regim<sup>t</sup>.*

*I wee conceive him to be a man of a very timorous & fearefull spiritt, w<sup>h</sup> wee offer to make good thus,*

*That when ye enemy was upon their march for ye releife of Banbury, Maior Temple in a terrible fright all bespattered w<sup>th</sup> dirt, came rideing from his Qrs at Bloxham & brought Col: ffienness (then comaunding the fforges there in cheife) a false allarum, affirming yt ye enemy mas in his Qrs: & y<sup>t</sup> he had turned all his owne best rideing horses loose, and was necessitated to hide himselfe in a woodpile, for y<sup>t</sup> diverse of his men were taken Prisoners, & this hee affirmed w<sup>th</sup> soe much confidence, y<sup>t</sup> there was an Order prsently graunted for ye drawing away ye Dragoones from Aderbury Bridge, wch was there appointed for ye security of y<sup>t</sup> passage, for had ye enemy beene come to Bloxam being betwixt ym & the League, ye Guard being thus drawne of gave opptunity to ye enemy not long after to passe over ye s<sup>d</sup> Aderbury Bridge, w<sup>h</sup> in all pbability had been preunted, had not y<sup>t</sup> Guard beene soe taken off.*

\* Egerton MS., No. 786, folio 72 b.

† Id., folio 84 b.

That when ye Count of Warr had ordered a retreat of ye forces to Warwicke, and not to engage w<sup>th</sup> ye enemy, The management of ye Horse being entrusted to Col: Lydcott, Maior Temple gave orders to y<sup>t</sup> division, hee was entrusted withall (ag<sup>t</sup> order) to charge ye enemy being very neare ym & himsef contrary to his trust left ym, pretending hee went to fetch up ffoote, w<sup>ch</sup> he had noe order to doe, by w<sup>ch</sup> meanes tis very pbable, was ye cause y<sup>t</sup> devision faced about, seeing their Maior yt had talked soe much soe unworthily at ye prsent left ym.

That Maior Temple goeing from Okeingham, to Ham neare Hungerford, w<sup>th</sup> a pty of 200 horse to beate up ye enemyes Qrs: and comeing to ye greate house at Aldermaston he there refreshed till such tyme as it was night, when drawing up his horse in ye Court towards ye psecucon of his designe, hee discovered a pty of Musketeers in ye Towne comeing up towards him w<sup>h</sup> by his knowledge Col: ffienis had appointed to come thither to make good his retreat, having given them ye same word Maior Temple had, & acquainted him w<sup>th</sup> ye tyme of their comeing thither, notwithstanding this Maior Temple at ye sight of ye sd pty (before he had sent out to discover ym) was soe much affrighted yt hee gave orders to ye horse there under his comaund to betake ymselves to ye house for shelter whereupon all ye pty was in disorder & confusion, & had thronged into ye house, had not some officers w<sup>th</sup> him, psuaded him to ye contrary & to take ye ffield, since it was in his power to engage, or draw away as hee pleased.

2<sup>ly</sup> Wee conceive him to bee a Man yt makes Religion a Cloake to psecute his designes by, when indeed he is altogether voyd of ye power thereof, w<sup>h</sup> wee offer to make good thus,

That hee maketh noe conscience of speakeing of all manner of untruthes, of w<sup>ch</sup> wee have had sufficient experience.

That hee maketh noe conscience of curseing & sweareing, w<sup>ch</sup> Religion will not admitt of upon any occasion.

That hee hath made noe conscience of abusing & oppressing ye Country w<sup>ch</sup> wee are able to make good severall wayes.

That hee is a man of a very Covetous nature troublesome disposicon practising all mischeife ag<sup>t</sup> those, yt will not comply w<sup>th</sup> his humours

Northton.

June 12, 1645.

Jo: White

Jo: Hunt

Tho: Breus

} Capt<sup>ns</sup> in Col John  
ffienis, his  
Regim<sup>t</sup>

That ye said Maior Temple hath at his pting from ye Regim<sup>t</sup> made a false Muster.\*

\* Egerton MS., No. 786, folio 41-2.

It is far from certain whether these Articles against Major Temple were ever put into the hands of the Speaker, for Sir Oliver Luke to whose charge they were committed for presentation to the House, advised delay, and stated that they would not be allowed, except upon the evidence of witnesses, who had seen the signatures attached.\* But at length the question of the Governorship of Newport was brought to an issue upon General Browne giving Major Temple a Commission to assume the command in chief at Newport. Against this invasion of his authority, Cockayne at once appealed to the House of Commons in a letter dated the seventh of August. On Saturday, the ninth instant, this question came forward in debate—Cockayne's letter was read, and a counter-charge brought against him of using abusive language of Major General Brown, and ultimately referred to the Committee of the three Counties of Oxon, Bucks, and Berks, to hear and report upon to the House.† After a long discussion, during which was read the Ordinance appointing Major-General Browne to be Major-General of the Three Counties of Oxon, Bucks, and Berks, the House resolved—

"That Mr. *Lane*, and Sir *W<sup>m</sup>. Lewes* do, from this House, go to Major-General *Browne*, and acquaint him, That by the Ordinance whereby he is appointed Major-General of the Three Associated Counties of *Oxon, Buck*', and *Berk*', there is no Power given him for establishing a Governor in the Garrison of *Newport Pagnell*; and to desire him to write his Letter to Major *Temple*, to come away from that Garrison."

"That it be recommended to Lieutenant Colonel *Cokayne* to take care of the Garrison of *Newport Pagnell*, till this House take further Order; and Sir *Samuel Luke* is appointed to prepare a Letter, to be signed by Mr. Speaker, and sent to Lieutenant Colonel *Cokaine*, to take care of this Garrison accordingly."‡

At the same sitting a letter was read from Sir Thomas Fairfax, written from Sherrington, near Newport, on the eighth of June, recommending Captain D'Oyley for the future Governor, and the House at once nominated him.

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\* Egerton MS, No. 786, folio 52 b.

† *Commons Journals*, Die Mercurii, 13<sup>o</sup> Augusti, 1645.

‡ *Commons Journals*, Die Sabbati, 9<sup>o</sup> Augusti, 1645.

Sir Thomas Widdrington carried up this vote to the Lords, who gave their assent on the twelfth instant,\* and, as the Editor of *The Mercurius Britannicus* observes, "a better *medium* could not have been chosen to end this *controversie*." Cockayne resumed his former position and duties in the garrison at Newport, and Temple was compensated for his disappointment by being made shortly afterwards Governor of Henley-upon-Thames.

The new Governor of Newport Pagnell Captain Charles D'Oyley, now promoted to be Major, and shortly afterwards to be Colonel with command of a Troop of Horse, had distinguished himself on the field of Naseby. "The General" (Fairfax) writes Mr. WHITELOCK, "had his Helmet beat off and riding in the Field bare-headed up and down from one part of his Army to another, to see how they stood, and what advantage might be gained and coming up to his own Life Guard commanded by Colonel Charles D'Oyley he was told by him that he exposed himself to too much Danger, and the whole Army thereby, riding bare-headed in the Fields, and so many Bullets flying about him and D'Oyley offered his General his Helmet, but he refused it saying, *it is well enough* Charles: and seeing a Body of the King's Foot stand, and not at all broken, he asked D'Oyley if he had charged that Body, who answered that he had twice charged them but could not break them.

"With that Fairfax bid him to charge them once again in the Front, and that he would take a Commanded Party, and charge them in the Rear at the same time and they might meet together in the middle, and bad him when Fairfax gave the sign to begin the Charge.

"D'Oyley pursued his Generals Orders, and both together charging that Body put them into a Confusion and broke them, and Fairfax and D'Oyley met indeed in the middle of them, when Fairfax killed the Ensign, and one of D'Oyley's Troopers took the Colours bragging of the service he had done in killing the Ensign and taking the chief Colours, D'Oyley chid the Trooper for his boasting and lying telling him how many Witnesses there were who saw the General do it with his own hand, but the General himself bade

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\* *Lord's Journals*, Die Martii 12<sup>o</sup>, Die Augusti, 1645.

"D'Oyley to let the Trooper alone, and said to him, I have Honour enough, let him take that Honour to himself."—*Memorials of the English Affairs*, page 151.

In this month of August, the King passed through Buckinghamshire from Woburn in his return to Oxford. His march was too rapid to permit him to make any attack on Newport. In accordance with their former practice the Parliament had continued to leave this garrison unsupplied with money, and had even permitted Major-General Browne to strengthen his army by drawing three Companies out of Newport, commanded severally by Captain Oxford, Captain Blodwell, and Captain Fishe.\* But when this new danger threatened, they sent down Five hundred pounds, raised from a fine levied upon Sir John Tirrell's Essex estate,† and hastily passed an Ordinance for placing the Associated Counties in a posture of War with the utmost speed, and for raising money to pay the Forces and support and maintain Newport Pagnell and some other garrisons.‡ Nor did Colonel D'Oyley allow the Newport soldiers to remain idle; Cockayne with seventy horse, cut off a party of fifteen men and twenty horses from the King's army, and brought them prisoners to the garrison.¶ Major Ennis was engaged on three or four occasions, and captured nine officers and about sixty-one soldiers,§ and subsequently performed good service at the taking of Shelford House in Nottinghamshire, by the forces of General Pointz. On which the Editor of the "*Perfect Passages*" remarks with justice, "This Major Ennis is a deserving man and hath done many good services and his soldiers are stout men, he is the man that sallied out into the Kings Quarters so often with Sir Samuel Luke's horse, and that in the Kings last plundering march fell so often into their quarters and brought away so many prisoners, when little else was done by any but him and Colonel Cocker (Cockayne?). Such pretious men and active souldiers must not be forgotten or neglected, who have neglected no opportunity to do the Kingdome service."\*\*

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\* *Commons Journals*, Augusti 23o, 1645.

† Id., *Die Martis*, Aug. 26o, 1645.

‡ *Perfect Diurnall*; from Munday, 25 of August, till Munday, the 1 of September, 1645.

¶ *The True Informer*; for the Week ending 30 Aug<sup>st</sup>, 1645.

§ *Heads of some notes of the Citie Scout*; Sept 2, 1645.

\*\* *Perfect Passages*; November 5, to November 12, 1645.

As the summer wore away, and the King's cause declined, all danger to Newport had passed, and the Parliament set themselves seriously to consider how they might prudently reduce the cost of their garrisons, and passed an Ordinance for the resettling of *Newport Pagnell, Bedford, Lyn Regis*, and other Garrisons in the Eastern Association. By this Ordinance the former one for the fortification and garrison of Newport, of the eighteenth of December, 1643, was repealed from the first day of June last past, and it was ordered that from that date, instead of the sums formerly levied, there should be raised a monthly sum of 3746*l.* in different proportions from the Counties of Bedford, Hertford, Cambridge, Huntingdon, Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, Northampton, and Buckingham, the Isle of Ely, and the City of Norwich, and applied for the maintenance of the Garrisons of the Eastern Association, and that the garrison of Newport Pagnell should be reduced to eight hundred foot and one hundred and twenty horse, and receive their pay from the Treasurer appointed under this Ordinance, only however upon Warrant or Order in writing, signed by five or more of the Committee for the Association.\*

The reduced garrison at Newport appears to have become disorderly, and the Journals of the Lords record a complaint from Lord Bruce, that some of the soldiers had entered his Park near Newport, probably Houghton Lodge in Bedfordshire, destroyed most of the deer, threatened to kill the keeper, and stolen a deer from a carrier.† This disorderly conduct may have arisen, as on a former occasion, from the withholding payment of their arrears from the men, for it appears that within a few weeks after this affair had happened, and upon the Report from the Committee of Both Kingdoms upon a Petition of Captain Andrewes in behalf of his officers and soldiers, the House of Commons ordered a peremptory letter to be sent to the Committee of Newport Pagnell requiring them to pay the troop of Captain Andrewes,‡

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\* An Ordinance of the Lords and Commons Assembled in Parliament, For the maintenance and pay of the Garrisons of *Newport Pagnell, Bedford, Lyn Regis*, etc., London, Printed for *Edward Husband*, Printer to the Honourable House of Commons, Septemb. 4, 1645.

† *Lord's Journals*, Die Veneris, 19<sup>o</sup> die Septembris, 1645.

‡ *Commons Journals*, Die Mercurii, 8<sup>o</sup> Octobris, 1645.

and shortly afterwards directed that a contingent of two hundred men should be sent from this garrison to the Army then forming for the reduction of Newark.\*

In the month of November, a considerable force from Borstoll and Oxford, aware perhaps of the weakness of the garrison at Newport, made a rapid and successful predatory expedition through Buckinghamshire. They visited the neighbourhoods of Newport Pagnell and Princes Risborough, and carried away with them several of the principal inhabitants, detaining them till ransomed.† They penetrated to Wendover, Kimble, Edlesborough, Stoke, and Missenden, and advanced in such strength, as to give rise to a report that the King was marching from Oxford and had reached Bicester, a rumour, which though it proved unfounded, D'Oyley considered of sufficient probability and importance to communicate to London.‡

*January, 1646.*—The irregularities of the Newport soldiers seem to have increased rather than abated during the progress of the following autumn and winter, and whatever steps Colonel D'Oyley may have taken to repress them, proved insufficient, for towards the end of the month, an Ordinance for exercising Martial Law at Newport and Aylesbury was introduced into the Commons, and after some discussion with the Lords, passed with the addition of certain provisoes.§ In February Colonel Venn went down to take the command of the soldiers to be levied by impressment for recruits for Fairfax's army, and marched to Newport upon the 20th of the month. He was directed to maintain discipline, to issue warrants for the pay of these soldiers and their Commanders to the Deputy Treasurers at Newport, to defray all extraordinary charges, to assign quarters to the men, and give orders to the Commissary of the Ammunition, for the delivering of the requisite clothing, arms, and ammunition.|| Here Colonel Venn remained on this service until the 26th of March, when he was ordered to proceed to Northampton.\*\*

\* *Commons Journals*, Die Mercurii, Octobris 22<sup>o</sup>, 1645.

† *The Scottish Dove*, November 19<sup>th</sup>, to November 27<sup>th</sup>, 1645.

‡ *A Continuation of Certain Passages*, November 14<sup>th</sup>, to November 21<sup>st</sup>, 1645.

§ *Commons Journals*, Die Sabbati, 31<sup>o</sup> Januarii, 1645.

|| *Id.*, Die Veneris, 13<sup>o</sup> Februarii, 1645.

\*\* *Id.*, Die Veneris, 20<sup>o</sup> Martii, 1645.

From this time forward, nothing of importance occurred at Newport. The Diurnals contain no details of any interest, the Journals of both Houses are almost silent. The King's cause was fast becoming hopeless, and the flame of the Civil Wars scarcely survived except in Ireland. In the month of June a Report upon the state of the Garrisons in the Eastern Association was presented by the Members of that Association to the Committee of Both Kingdoms at Derby House, by whom it was afterwards submitted to the Parliament. The Committee accompanied it with a recommendation to disband the troops at Lynn Regis, Cambridge, Huntingdon, Bedford, and Ely. As however, no suggestion was offered respecting Newport Pagnell, the House of Lords in reply desired that the state of the Garrison of Newport should be represented to the Committee of Both Kingdoms.\* And after a short interval of about six weeks, both Houses passed an Ordinance for dismantling the fortifications of Newport Pagnell, Cambridge, Huntingdon, and Bedford, and the sending of the Forces of these Garrisons to Ireland.

"It is Ordered by the Lords and Commons in Parliament assembled. That the several garrisons of Newport Pagnell, Cambridge, Huntingdon, and Bedford, be forthwith sleighted and demolished, and that the Committee and Deputy Lieutenants of the several Counties or any five or more of them where the said Garrisons are respectively, are hereby required and authorized forthwith to take some effectual course for sleighting and demolishing the said Garrisons, and to cause the said Garrisons to be sleighted and demolished. And that all officers and Souldiers and all other persons whatsoever, be aiding and assisting unto them in such commands: And if any opposition or mutiny doe happen in the execution of this Ordinance, That the Deputy Lieutenants and Committees of the severall Counties, in or neere such places where such a mutiny or opposition shall happen shall and may leavy what forces of the respective Counties they hold fitting to suppress such mutiny and oppositions and to commit the offenders to prison to be further punished, as both Houses of Parliament shall hold fitting.

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\* *Lord's Journals*; Die Martis 2<sup>o</sup>, die Junii, 1646.

“ And it is further Ordered, That the several companies of Lyn Regiment, belonging to the Garrisons of Lyn and Boston, and all the officers and souldiers, both horse and foot, of Newport Pagnell, Cambridge, Huntingdon, and Bedford be forthwith entertained and imployed for the service of Ireland, and such as willingly offer themselves in that service shall have one moneth’s pay forthwith paid to them by the Treasurers of the said Garrisons respectively upon Muster, and their debenters forthwith cast up, and what is or may be due unto them, their Quarters being deducted, since their entertainment in the said Garrisons respectively from the 1<sup>st</sup>. of June 1645 shall be paid unto them or their assignes in their absence before any other, which sums of money are to be raised out of the Assessments for the Garrisons of the Eastern Association which is required hereby forthwith to be raised.

“ And it is further Ordered that such as shall be imployed for Ireland, as aforesaid, shall also have one other moneth’s pay to be paid as aforesaid at the place of their Rendezvous, as shall be appointed by the Committee for Irish affairs.

“ And it is further Ordered that such common souldiers as shall refuse to go for Ireland shall be forthwith disbanded, and their horses and arms taken from them by the said Committees and Deputy Lieutenants of the severall Counties respectively and by them to be kept until further order.

“ And whereas the Order for the payment of the said Garrisons did expire the first of June last passed, It is Ordered that the said Ordinance and all assessments and payments and all powers and authorities therein mentioned shall continue to all intents and purposes to the first day of September 1646 now next ensuing and no longer.

“ And lastly it is Ordered, That the Committee of Lords and Commons for the Eastern Association doe take care and order that this present Ordinance be put in execution, And that if any persons doe mutiny, oppose, or hinder the execution of this Ordinance the said Committee or any five or more of them shall have power to send for him or them so offending, to commit them to prison, and therewith to acquaint the Houses that further punishment may be inflicted on them according to their demerits.”\*

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\* *Perfect Diurnall*, from August 3<sup>o</sup>, to August 10<sup>th</sup>, 1646,

Thus terminated the military occupation of Newport by the forces of the Parliament. It had continued two years and nine months, and during that time had rendered steady useful service. If the garrison at Newport is not remarkable for any brilliant exploits, it exhibited a firm courage whenever danger threatened; and if not free from some petty jealousies and intrigues, it was never tainted with the slightest suspicion of a treasonable correspondence with the enemy, a meed of praise which cannot be bestowed with truth upon all the other Parliamentary Garrisons in the county of Buckingham.

H. R.

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#### THE MARKET CROSS OF BUCKINGHAM.

This Cross anciently stood in the Horse Fair, upon an open space of ground nearly opposite the Mansion built by William and Mary Lambert, in which King Charles the First was entertained in June, 1644, now the property and residence of T. Hearn, Esq. The steps and part of the shaft of the Cross are stated to have continued in their original position till the end of the last century, and to have been then removed into the garden of a public-house adjoining, called "The Dun Cow," and converted into a pedestal for a sun-dial. In 1844, the Cross was taken by the late Mr. Loveridge to Preston Bissett, four miles from Buckingham, and his son subsequently conveyed it to Lillingstone Lovell, near Whitebury. Upon leaving Lillingstone to reside in a distant part of the country Mr. Loveridge presented this Cross to the Reverend W. Perkins, of Twyford, by whose liberality this interesting fragment of antiquity has been restored to Buckingham. It was brought back in March, 1858, was then temporarily placed in the Vicarage garden, and has now, it is hoped, reached its final destination. As the piece of ground on which it was originally built has been long enclosed, and the exact site lost on which it stood, the Cross is now placed in a conspicuous position in the Churchyard, some years since closed to interments by Order in Council, and marks the spot which was once the Western entrance to the Church, demolished after the fall of the spire, in the year 1777.—The base of the Cross in its present condition, measures two feet seven inches square, by ten inches high, and the shaft is two feet six inches high, by ten inches in diameter. The corners are chamfered, and the mouldings ornamented with the four-leaved flower pattern indicate the fourteenth century, the period of Decorated Architecture, as the date of its construction.

H. R.

# ARCHITECTURAL AND ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY FOR THE COUNTY OF BUCKINGHAM.

## ABSTRACT OF ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31<sup>st</sup>, 1861.

### Receipts.

	£	s.	d.
Subscriptions .....	32	16	0
Donation .....	1	0	0
Receipts at the Annual Meeting at Amersham .....	5	9	0
By Sale of "Records" .....	0	14	0
Balance due to the Treasurer, December 31 <sup>st</sup> , 1861...	2	16	0

### Payments.

	£	s.	d.
Balance due from 1860 .....	5	11	9
Messrs. Day & Son .....	4	11	6
Mr. Pickburn, balance of Account to the end of 1860 .....	10	0	0
Mr. Ivatts, for use of Room .....	12	12	0
Expenses at the Annual Meeting at Amersham .....	4	4	7
" General Meeting at Aylesbury .....	0	15	8
One Volume of Whellan & Co.'s History of Buck- inghamshire .....	1	1	0
Postage Stamps for issuing the numbers of the "Records," &c. ....	3	4	0
Parcels .....	0	13	6

£42 14 0

£42 14 0

Examined, Audited, and compared with the Vouchers.

AYLESBURY, 10th JULY, 1862.

ARTHUR ISHAM, } Joint Auditors.  
Z. D. HUNT, }

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## RULES.

# RULES

OF THE

## Architectural and Archæological Society

FOR THE COUNTY OF BUCKINGHAM.

*Established Nov. 16th, 1847.*

I. OBJECT.—That the object of this Society shall be, to promote the study of Architecture and Antiquities, by the collection of books, drawings, models, casts, brass-rubbings, notes, and local information, and by mutual instruction at Meetings of the Society in the way of conversation and by reading original papers on subjects connected with its designs.

II. CONSTITUTION.—That the Society shall consist of a President, Vice-Presidents, not less than two Secretaries, a Treasurer, two Auditors, Honorary and Ordinary Members; of whom, the Bishop of the Diocese for the time being shall be requested to accept the office of President; the Archdeacon of the County, being a Subscriber, shall be considered *ex officio* one of the Vice-Presidents; and that the remaining Vice-Presidents shall be nominated by the Committee, and with the other Officers be elected by a Majority of the Members present at an Annual Meeting of the Society; and that every candidate for admission to the Society shall be proposed and seconded at a General Meeting or at a Committee Meeting, and ballotted for at the next General Meeting, one black ball in five to exclude; and that on the election of a Member, one of the Secretaries shall send him notice of it and a copy of the Rules.

III. GOVERNMENT.—That the affairs of the Society be transacted by a Committee consisting of the President, Vice-Presidents, Secretaries, Treasurer, and Twelve Ordinary Members, elected annually at a General Meeting of the Subscribers; and that three do constitute a quorum; further, that all Rural Deans in the County, being Subscribers, be considered *ex officio* Members of the Committee, exclusive of the twelve elected; and that Members of the Committee in any neighbourhood may associate other Members of the Society with themselves for local purposes in communication with the Central Committee.

IV. FINANCES.—That each Member shall pay an Annual Subscription of not less than Five Shillings, to be due on the first of January for the current year, or shall compound for the same for five years by one payment of a Guinea, or for life by one payment of Five Pounds. And that if any Member's Subscription be in arrear for one year, he may be removed from the Society after three month's notice to him from the Treasurer, at the discretion of the Committee. Excepting that all persons holding the office of Churchwarden in any Parish of the County be placed, on the recommendation of the Clergyman of their respective Parish, and with the sanction of the Committee, on the list of Members, without payment; and also that when extraordinary talent in Architectural or Archæological pursuits is shown by any person, it shall be competent for a majority of the Committee to elect such person an Honorary Member without Subscription.

V. MEETINGS.—That the General Meetings of the Society be held once a quarter, or at such times in each year as the Committee shall fix, of which due notice shall be given; and that each member may be allowed to introduce Visitors at all General Meetings, except during the transaction of private business.

VI. PROPERTY.—That all Books, Drawings, Papers, and other property of the Society, be kept by the Secretaries for the use of Members, subject to the regulations of the Committee.


VII. RULES.—That no new Rule shall be passed, and no alteration made in any existing Rule, unless notice of the proposed new Rule or alteration shall have been given at the preceding General Meeting.

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## Architectural and Archæological Society

FOR THE COUNTY OF BUCKINGHAM.

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